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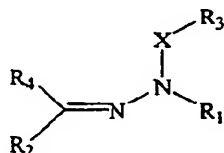
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(54) Organophotoreceptor with a charge transport compound having an epoxy group

(57) The present invention provides an organophotoreceptor comprising an electrically conductive substrate and a photoconductive element on the electrically conductive substrate, the photoconductive element comprising

a) a charge transport compound having the formula



R₁ is an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group;

R₂ comprises an (N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group;

R₃ comprises an epoxy group;

R₄ is H, an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group; and

X is a first linking group; and

(b) a charge generating compound.

The epoxy group can be reacted with a functional group within the polymer to form a polymeric charge transport compound either directly or through a crosslinking agent. Corresponding electrophotographic apparatuses, imaging processes, charge transport compounds, charge transport compositions, imaging methods, and charge transport compounds, compositions, and organophotoreceptors prepared by certain reactions are also described.

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Description

[0001] This invention relates to organophotoreceptors suitable for use in electrophotography and, more specifically, to organophotoreceptors having a charge transport compound comprising at least an epoxy group, a hydrazone group, and at least an (N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group. The epoxy group may or may not be covalently bonded with a polymer binder, directly or through a crosslinking compound.

[0002] In electrophotography, an organophotoreceptor in the form of a plate, disk, sheet, belt, drum or the like having an electrically insulating photoconductive element on an electrically conductive substrate is imaged by first uniformly electrostatically charging the surface of the photoconductive layer, and then exposing the charged surface to a pattern of light. The light exposure selectively dissipates the charge in the illuminated areas where light strikes the surface, thereby forming a pattern of charged and uncharged areas, referred to as a latent image. A liquid or dry toner is then provided in the vicinity of the latent image, and toner droplets or particles deposit in the vicinity of either the charged or uncharged areas to create a toned image on the surface of the photoconductive layer. The resulting toned image can be transferred to a suitable ultimate or intermediate receiving surface, such as paper, or the photoconductive layer can operate as an ultimate receptor for the image. The imaging process can be repeated many times to complete a single image, for example, by overlaying images of distinct color components or effect shadow images, such as overlaying images of distinct colors to form a full color final image, and/or to reproduce additional images.

[0003] Both single layer and multilayer photoconductive elements have been used. In single layer embodiments, a charge transport material and charge generating material are combined with a polymeric binder and then deposited on the electrically conductive substrate. In multilayer embodiments, the charge transport material and charge generating material are present in the element in separate layers, each of which can optionally be combined with a polymeric binder, deposited on the electrically conductive substrate. Two arrangements are possible for a two-layer photoconductive element. In one two-layer arrangement (the "dual layer" arrangement), the charge-generating layer is deposited on the electrically conductive substrate and the charge transport layer is deposited on top of the charge generating layer. In an alternate two-layer arrangement (the "inverted dual layer" arrangement), the order of the charge transport layer and charge generating layer is reversed.

[0004] In both the single and multilayer photoconductive elements, the purpose of the charge generating material is to generate charge carriers (i.e., holes and/or electrons) upon exposure to light. The purpose of the charge transport material is to accept at least one type of these charge carriers and transport them through the charge transport layer in order to facilitate discharge of a surface charge on the photoconductive element. The charge transport material can be a charge transport compound, an electron transport compound, or a combination of both. When a charge transport compound is used, the charge transport compound accepts the hole carriers and transports them through the layer with the charge transport compound. When an electron transport compound is used, the electron transport compound accepts the electron carriers and transports them through the layer with the electron transport compound.

[0005] Organophotoreceptors may be used for both dry and liquid electrophotography. There are many differences between dry and liquid electrophotography. A significant difference is that a dry toner is used in dry electrophotography, whereas a liquid toner is used in liquid electrophotography. A potential advantage of liquid electrophotography is that it can provide a higher resolution and thus sharper images than dry electrophotography because liquid toner particles can be generally significantly smaller than dry toner particles. As a result of their smaller size, liquid toners are able to provide images of higher optical density than dry toners.

[0006] In both dry and liquid electrophotography, the charge transport material used for the organophotoreceptor should be compatible with the polymeric binder in the photoconductive element. The selection of a suitable polymeric binder for a particular charge transport material can place constraints on the formation of the photoconductive element. If the charge transport material is not compatible with the polymeric binder, the charge transport material may phase-separate or crystallize in the polymeric binder matrix, or may diffuse onto the surface of the layer containing the charge transport material. If such incompatibility occurs, the organophotoreceptor can cease to transport charges.

[0007] Furthermore, liquid electrophotography faces an additional issue. In particular, the organophotoreceptor for liquid electrophotography is in contact with the liquid carrier of a liquid toner while the toner dries or pending transfer to a receiving surface. As a result, the charge transport material in the photoconductive element may be removed by extraction by the liquid carrier. Over a long period of operation, the amount of the charge transport material removed by extraction may be significant and, therefore, detrimental to the performance of the organophotoreceptor.

[0008] An object of the present invention is to provide organophotoreceptors comprising charge transport compounds featuring beneficial properties.

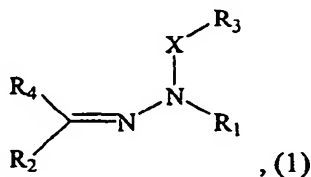
[0009] According to the present invention there is provided an organophotoreceptor, an electrophotographic imaging apparatus, an electrophotographic imaging process, a charge transport compound, and a charge transport composition, as set forth in the appended claims.

[0010] Preferred features of the invention will be apparent from the dependent claims, and the description which follows.

[0011] This invention provides organophotoreceptors having good electrostatic properties such as high V_{acc} and low V_{dis} . This invention also provides charge transport materials having a high compatibility with the polymeric binder, reduced phase separation, and reduced extraction by liquid carriers.

[0012] In a first aspect, an organophotoreceptor comprises an electrically conductive substrate and a photoconductive element on the electrically conductive substrate, the photoconductive element comprising:

a) a charge transport compound having the formula:



R_1 is an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group;

R_2 comprises an (N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group, such as a p-(N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group (e.g., triphenylamine), a carbazole group, or a julolidine group;

R_3 comprises an epoxy group;

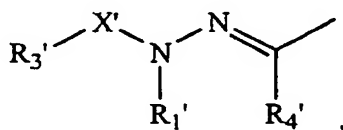
R_4 is H, an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group; and

X is a first linking group, such as a $-(CH_2)_m-$ group, where m is an integer between 1 and 30, inclusive, and one or more of the methylene groups is optionally replaced by O, S, N, C, B, P, C=O, O=S=O, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, urethane, urea, an ester group, an NR_5 group, a CR_6 , or a CR_7R_8 group where R_5 , R_6 , R_7 , and R_8 are, each independently, a bond, H, hydroxyl, thiol, carboxyl, an amino group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, or part of a ring group; and

(b) a charge generating compound.

The organophotoreceptor may be provided in the form of a plate, a flexible belt, a flexible disk, a sheet, a rigid drum, or a sheet around a rigid or compliant drum. In one embodiment, the organophotoreceptor includes: (a) a photoconductive element comprising the charge transport compound, the charge generating compound, and a polymeric binder, and (b) the electrically conductive substrate.

[0013] In some embodiments, the (N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group in R_2 of Formula (1) above may comprise one or more epoxidated hydrazone group having the formula



where R_1' is an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group;

R_4' is H, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, an aromatic group, or a heterocyclic group;

R_3' comprises an epoxy group, a hydroxyl group, a thiol group, a carboxyl group, or an amine group; and

X' is a second linking group, such as a $-(CH_2)_n-$ group, where n is an integer between 1 and 30, inclusive, and one or more of the methylene groups is optionally replaced by O, S, N, C, B, P, C=O, O=S=O, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, urethane, urea, an ester group, an NR_9 group, a CR_{10} , or a $CR_{11}R_{12}$ group where R_9 , R_{10} , R_{11} , and R_{12} are, each independently, a bond, H, hydroxyl, thiol, carboxyl, an amino group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, or part of a ring group.

[0014] In a second aspect, the invention features an electrophotographic imaging apparatus comprising (a) a light imaging component; and (b) the above-described organophotoreceptor oriented to receive light from the light imaging component. The apparatus preferably further includes a toner dispenser, such as a liquid toner dispenser and a dry toner dispenser. The method of electrophotographic imaging with photoreceptors containing these novel charge transport compounds is also described.

[0015] In a third aspect, the invention features an electrophotographic imaging process comprising (a) applying an electrical charge to a surface of the above-described organophotoreceptor; (b) imagewise exposing the surface of the organophotoreceptor to radiation to dissipate charge in selected areas and thereby form a pattern of at least relatively

charged and uncharged areas on the surface; (c) contacting the surface with a toner, such as a liquid toner that includes a dispersion of colorant particles in an organic liquid, to create a toned image; and (d) transferring the toned image to a substrate.

[0016] In a fourth aspect, the invention features novel charge transport compounds having the Formula shown above with respect to the first aspect of the invention.

[0017] In a fifth aspect, the invention features a polymeric charge transport compound prepared by, or obtainable by, the reaction of an epoxy group in a compound having the Formula above reacted at the epoxy group with a reactive functionality in a binder directly or through a crosslinking agent. In some embodiments, the reactive functionality of the binder is selected from the group consisting of hydroxyl group, carboxyl group, amino group, and thiol group.

[0018] In a sixth aspect, the invention features an organophotoreceptor comprising an electrically conductive substrate and a photoconductive element on the electrically conductive substrate, the photoconductive element comprising:

(a) a polymeric charge transport compound prepared by, or obtainable by, the reaction of an epoxy group in a compound having the Formula above bonded at the epoxy functional group with a reactive functionality in a binder directly or through a crosslinking agent. In some embodiments, the reactive functionality is selected from the group consisting of hydroxyl group, carboxyl group, amino group, and thiol group; and

(b) a charge generating compound.

[0019] In a final aspect, the invention provides a charge transport composition prepared by, or obtainable by, the reaction of at least a reactive functionality of a functional binder with at least an epoxy ring in a compound having the Formula above.

[0020] The invention provides charge transport compounds for organophotoreceptors featuring a combination of good mechanical and electrostatic properties. These photoreceptors can be used successfully with toners, such as liquid toners, to produce high quality images. The high quality of the imaging system is maintained after repeated cycling.

[0021] Other features and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following description of the preferred embodiments thereof, and from the claims.

[0022] Charge transport compounds with desirable properties have a hydrazone group linked with at least one aryl group and an (N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group along with an epoxy group that can facilitate bonding of the charge transport compound with at least some polymer binders, either directly or through a linking group. The (N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group may further comprise a second hydrazone group linked optionally to a second epoxy group. These charge transport materials have desirable properties as evidenced by their performance in organophotoreceptors for electrophotography. In particular, the charge transport materials of this invention have high charge carrier mobilities and good compatibility with various binder materials, and possess excellent electrophotographic properties. The organophotoreceptors according to this invention generally have a high photosensitivity, a low residual potential, and a high stability with respect to cycle testing, crystallization, and organophotoreceptor bending and stretching. The organophotoreceptors are particularly useful in laser printers and the like as well as fax machines, photocopiers, scanners and other electronic devices based on electrophotography. The use of these charge transport materials is described in more detail below in the context of laser printer use, although their application in other devices operating by electrophotography can be generalized from the discussion below.

[0023] To produce high quality images, particularly after multiple cycles, it is desirable for the charge transport materials to form a homogeneous solution with the polymeric binder and remain approximately homogeneously distributed through the organophotoreceptor material during the cycling of the material. In addition, it is desirable to increase the amount of charge that the charge transport material can accept (indicated by a parameter known as the acceptance voltage or " V_{acc} "), and to reduce retention of that charge upon discharge (indicated by a parameter known as the discharge voltage or " V_{dis} ").

[0024] The charge transport materials can be classified as a charge transport compound or an electron transport compound. There are many charge transport compounds and electron transport compounds known in the art for electrophotography. Non-limiting examples of charge transport compounds include, for example, pyrazoline derivatives, fluorene derivatives, oxadiazole derivatives, stilbene derivatives, enamine derivatives, enamine stilbene derivatives, hydrazone derivatives, carbazole hydrazone derivatives, (N,N-disubstituted)aryl amines such as triaryl amines, polyvinyl carbazole, polyvinyl pyrene, polyacenaphthylene, or multi-hydrazone compounds comprising at least two hydrazone groups and at least two groups selected from the group consisting of (N,N-disubstituted)arylamine such as triphenylamine and heterocycles such as carbazole, julolidine, phenothiazine, phenazine, phenoxazine, phenoxathiin, thiazole, oxazole, isoxazole, dibenzo(1,4)dioxin, thianthrene, imidazole, benzothiazole, benzotriazole, benzoxazole, benzimidazole, quinoline, isoquinoline, quinoxaline, indole, indazole, pyrrole, purine, pyridine, pyridazine, pyrimidine, pyrazine, triazole, oxadiazole, tetrazole, thiadiazole, benzisoxazole, benzisothiazole, dibenzofuran, dibenzothiophene, thi-

ophene, thianaphthene, quinazoline, or cinnoline.

[0025] Non-limiting examples of electron transport compounds include, for example, bromoaniline, tetracyanoethylene, tetracyanoquinodimethane, 2,4,7-trinitro-9-fluorenone, 2,4,5,7-tetranitro-9-fluorenone, 2,4,5,7-tetranitroxanthone, 2,4,8-trinitrothioxanthone, 2,6,8-trinitro-indeno[1,2-b]thiophene-4-one, and 1,3,7-trinitrodibenzo thiophene-5,5-dioxide, (2,3-diphenyl-1-indenylidene)malononitrile, 4H-thiopyran-1,1-dioxide and its derivatives such as 4-dicyanomethylene-2,6-diphenyl-4H-thiopyran-1,1-dioxide, 4-dicyanomethylene-2,6-di-m-tolyl-4H-thiopyran-1,1-dioxide, and unsymmetrically substituted 2,6-diaryl-4H-thiopyran-1,1-dioxide such as 4H-1,1-dioxo-2-(p-isopropylphenyl)-6-phenyl-4-(dicyanomethylidene)thiopyran and 4H-1,1-dioxo-2-(p-isopropylphenyl)-6-(2-thienyl)-4-(dicyanomethylidene)thiopyran, derivatives of phospho-2,5-cyclohexadiene, alkoxycarbonyl-9-fluorenylidene)malononitrile derivatives such as (4-n-butoxycarbonyl-9-fluorenylidene)malononitrile, (4-phenethoxycarbonyl-9-fluorenylidene)malononitrile, (4-carbitoxy-9-fluorenylidene)malononitrile, and diethyl(4-n-butoxycarbonyl-2,7-dinitro-9-fluorenylidene)-malonate, anthraquinodimethane derivatives such as 11,11,12,12-tetracyano-2-alkylanthraquinodimethane and 11,11-dicyano-12,12-bis(ethoxycarbonyl)anthraquinodimethane, anthrone derivatives such as 1-chloro-10-[bis(ethoxycarbonyl)methylene]anthrone, 1,8-dichloro-10-[bis(ethoxy carbonyl) methylene]anthrone, 1,8-dihydroxy-10-[bis(ethoxycarbonyl)methylene]anthrone, and 1-cyano-10-[bis(ethoxycarbonyl)methylene]anthrone, 7-nitro-2-aza-9-fluorenylidene-malononitrile, diphenoquinone derivatives, benzoquinone derivatives, naphthoquinone derivatives, quinine derivatives, tetracyanoethylenecyanoethylene, 2,4,8-trinitro thioxanthone, dinitrobenzene derivatives, dinitroanthracene derivatives, dinitroacridine derivatives, nitroanthraquinone derivatives, dinitroanthraquinone derivatives, succinic anhydride, maleic anhydride, dibromo maleic anhydride, pyrene derivatives, carbazole derivatives, hydrazone derivatives, N,N-dialkylaniline derivatives, diphenylamine derivatives, triphenylamine derivatives, triphenylmethane derivatives, tetracyano quinoedimethane, 2,4,5,7-tetranitro-9-fluorenone, 2,4,7-trinitro-9-dicyanomethylene fluorenone, 2,4,5,7-tetranitroxanthone derivatives, and 2,4,8-trinitrothioxanthone derivatives. In some embodiments of interest, the electron transport compound comprises an (alkoxycarbonyl-9-fluorenylidene)malononitrile derivative, such as (4-n-butoxycarbonyl-9-fluorenylidene)malononitrile.

[0026] Although there are many charge transport materials available, there is a need for other charge transport materials to meet the various requirements of particular electrophotography applications.

[0027] In electrophotography applications, a charge-generating compound within an organophotoreceptor absorbs light to form electron-hole pairs. These electrons and holes can be transported over an appropriate time frame under a large electric field to discharge locally a surface charge that is generating the field. The discharge of the field at a particular location results in a surface charge pattern that essentially matches the pattern drawn with the light. This charge pattern then can be used to guide toner deposition. The charge transport materials described herein are especially effective at transporting charge, and in particular holes from the electron-hole pairs formed by the charge generating compound. In some embodiments, a specific electron transport compound or charge transport compound can also be used along with the charge transport material of this invention.

[0028] The layer or layers of materials containing the charge generating compound and the charge transport materials are within an organophotoreceptor. To print a two dimensional image using the organophotoreceptor, the organophotoreceptor has a two dimensional surface for forming at least a portion of the image. The imaging process then continues by cycling the organophotoreceptor to complete the formation of the entire image and/or for the processing of subsequent images.

[0029] The organophotoreceptor may be provided in the form of a plate, a flexible belt, a disk, a rigid drum, a sheet around a rigid or compliant drum, or the like. The charge transport material can be in the same layer as the charge generating compound and/or in a different layer from the charge generating compound. Additional layers can be used also, as described further below.

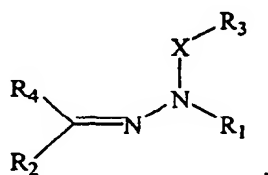
[0030] In some embodiments, the organophotoreceptor material comprises, for example: (a) a charge transport layer comprising the charge transport material and a polymeric binder; (b) a charge generating layer comprising the charge generating compound and a polymeric binder; and (c) the electrically conductive substrate. The charge transport layer may be intermediate between the charge generating layer and the electrically conductive substrate. Alternatively, the charge generating layer may be intermediate between the charge transport layer and the electrically conductive substrate. In further embodiments, the organophotoreceptor material has a single layer with both a charge transport material and a charge generating compound within a polymeric binder.

[0031] The organophotoreceptors can be incorporated into an electrophotographic imaging apparatus, such as laser printers. In these devices, an image is formed from physical embodiments and converted to a light image that is scanned onto the organophotoreceptor to form a surface latent image. The surface latent image can be used to attract toner onto the surface of the organophotoreceptor, in which the toner image is the same or the negative of the light image projected onto the organophotoreceptor. The toner can be a liquid toner or a dry toner. The toner is subsequently transferred, from the surface of the organophotoreceptor, to a receiving surface, such as a sheet of paper. After the transfer of the toner, the surface is discharged, and the material is ready to cycle again. The imaging apparatus can further comprise, for example, a plurality of support rollers for transporting a paper receiving medium and/or for move-

ment of the photoreceptor, a light imaging component with suitable optics to form the light image, a light source, such as a laser, a toner source and delivery system and an appropriate control system.

[0032] An electrophotographic imaging process generally can comprise (a) applying an electrical charge to a surface of the above-described organophotoreceptor; (b) imagewise exposing the surface of the organophotoreceptor to radiation to dissipate charge in selected areas and thereby form a pattern of charged and uncharged areas on the surface; (c) exposing the surface with a toner, such as a liquid toner that includes a dispersion of colorant particles in an organic liquid to create a toner image, to attract toner to the charged or discharged regions of the organophotoreceptor; and (d) transferring the toner image to a substrate.

[0033] This invention features an organophotoreceptor that comprises a charge transport compound having the formula



R_1 is an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group;

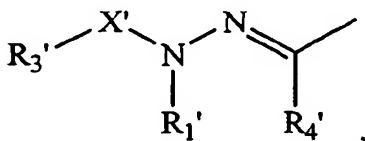
R_2 comprises an (N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group, such as a p-(N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group (e.g., triphenylamine), a carbazole group, or a julolidine group;

R_3 comprises an epoxy group;

R_4 is H, an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group; and

X is a first linking group, such as a $-(CH_2)_m-$ group, where m is an integer between 1 and 30, inclusive, and one or more of the methylene groups is optionally replaced by O, S, N, C, B, P, C=O, O=S=O, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, urethane, urea, an ester group, an NR_5 group, a CR_6 , or a CR_7R_8 group where R_5 , R_6 , R_7 , and R_8 are, each independently, a bond, H, hydroxyl, thiol, carboxyl, an amino group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, or part of a ring group.

[0034] The linking group X may be aliphatic, aromatic, or mixed aliphatic-aromatic. In some embodiments, the (N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group in R_2 of the above Formula may comprise one or more epoxidated hydrazone group having the formula



where R_1' is an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group;

R_4' is H, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, an aromatic group, or a heterocyclic group;

R_3' comprises an epoxy, a hydroxyl, a thiol, a carboxyl or an amine group; and

X' is a second linking group, such as a $-(CH_2)_n-$ group, where n is an integer between 1 and 30, inclusive, and one or more of the methylene groups is optionally replaced by O, S, N, C, B, P, C=O, O=S=O, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, urethane, urea, an ester group, an NR_9 group, a CR_{10} , or a $CR_{11}R_{12}$ group where R_9 , R_{10} , R_{11} , and R_{12} are, each independently, a bond, H, hydroxyl, thiol, carboxyl, an amino group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, or part of a ring group.

[0035] When forming the organophotoreceptor, the epoxy group may or may not be reacted with a function group of the binder or a crosslinking agent that crosslinks the charge transport compound with the binder. A suitable crosslinking agent has suitable multiple functionality to react with the epoxy group and a functional group of the binder.

[0036] An aromatic group can be any conjugated ring system containing $4n + 2$ pi-electrons. There are many criteria available for determining aromaticity. A widely employed criterion for the quantitative assessment of aromaticity is the resonance energy. In some embodiments, the resonance energy of the aromatic group is at least 10 KJ/mol. In further embodiments, the resonance energy of the aromatic group is greater than 0 KJ/mol. Aromatic groups may be classified as an aromatic heterocyclic group which contains at least a heteroatom in the $4n + 2$ pi-electron ring, or as an aryl group which does not contain a heteroatom in the $4n + 2$ pi-electron ring. The aromatic group may comprise a combination of aromatic heterocyclic group and aryl group. Nonetheless, either the aromatic heterocyclic or the aryl group

may have at least one heteroatom in a substituent attached to the $4n + 2$ pi-electron ring. Furthermore, either the aromatic heterocyclic or the aryl group may comprise a monocyclic or polycyclic (such as bicyclic, tricyclic, etc.) ring.

[0037] Non-limiting examples of the aromatic heterocyclic group are furanyl, thiophenyl, pyrrolyl, indolyl, carbazolyl, benzofuranyl, benzothiophenyl, dibenzofuranyl, dibenzothiophenyl, pyridinyl, pyridazinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, triazinyl, tetrazinyl, petazinyl, quinolinyl, isoquinolinyl, cinnolinyl, phthalazinyl, quinazolinyl, quinoxalyl, naphthpyridinyl, pteridinyl, acridinyl, phenanthridinyl, phenanthrolinyl, anthridinyl, purinyl, pteridinyl, alloxazinyl, phenazinyl, phenothiazinyl, phenoxazinyl, phenoxathiinyl, dibenzo(1,4)dioxinyl, thianthrenyl, and a combination thereof. The aromatic heterocyclic group may also include any combination of the above aromatic heterocyclic groups bonded together either by a bond (as in bicarbazolyl) or by a linking group (as in 1,6 di(10H-10-phenothiazinyl)hexane). The linking group may include an aliphatic group, an aromatic group, a heterocyclic group, or a combination thereof. Furthermore, either an aliphatic group or an aromatic group within a linking group may comprise at least one heteroatom such as O, S, and N.

[0038] Non-limiting examples of the aryl group are phenyl, naphthyl, benzyl, or tolanyl group, sexiphenylene, phenanthrenyl, anthracenyl, coronenyl, and tolanylphenyl. The aryl group may also include any combination of the above aryl groups bonded together either by a bond (as in biphenyl group) or by a linking group (as in stilbenyl, diphenyl sulfone, an arylamine group). The linking group may include an aliphatic group, an aromatic group, a heterocyclic group, or a combination thereof. Furthermore, either an aliphatic group or an aromatic group within a linking group may comprise at least one heteroatom such as O, S, and N.

[0039] Substitution is liberally allowed on the chemical groups to affect various physical effects on the properties of the compounds, such as mobility, sensitivity, solubility, stability, and the like, as is known generally in the art. In the description of chemical substituents, there are certain practices common to the art that are reflected in the use of language. The term group indicates that the generically recited chemical entity (e.g., alkyl group, phenyl group, julolidine group, carbazole group, (N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group, etc.) may have any substituent thereon which is consistent with the bond structure of that group. For example, where the term 'alkyl group' is used, that term would not only include unsubstituted linear, branched and cyclic alkyls, such as methyl, ethyl, isopropyl, tert-butyl, cyclohexyl, dodecyl and the like, but also substituents having at least a heteroatom such as 3-ethoxypropyl, 4-(N-ethylamino)butyl, 3-hydroxypentyl, 2-thiohexyl, 1,2,3-tribromopropyl, and the like. However, as is consistent with such nomenclature, no substitution would be included within the term that would alter the fundamental bond structure of the underlying group. For example, where a phenyl group is recited, substitution such as 1-aminophenyl, 2,4-dihydroxyphenyl, 1,3,5-trithiophenyl, 1,3,5-trimethoxyphenyl and the like would be acceptable within the terminology, while substitution of 1,1,2,2,3,3-hexamethylphenyl would not be acceptable as that substitution would require the ring bond structure of the phenyl group to be altered to a non-aromatic form. Similarly, when referring to an epoxy group, the compound or substituent cited includes any substitution that does not substantively alter the chemical nature of the epoxy ring in the formula. When referring to an (N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group, the two substituents attached to the nitrogen may be any group that will not substantively alter the chemical nature of the (N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group. Where the term moiety is used, such as alkyl moiety or phenyl moiety, that terminology indicates that the chemical material is not substituted. Where the term alkyl moiety is used, that term represents only an unsubstituted alkyl hydrocarbon group, whether branched, straight chain, or cyclic.

Organophotoreceptors

[0040] The organophotoreceptor may be, for example, in the form of a plate, a sheet, a flexible belt, a disk, a rigid drum, or a sheet around a rigid or compliant drum, with flexible belts and rigid drums generally being used in commercial embodiments. The organophotoreceptor may comprise, for example, an electrically conductive substrate and on the electrically conductive substrate a photoconductive element in the form of one or more layers. The photoconductive element can comprise both a charge transport material and a charge generating compound in a polymeric binder, which may or may not be in the same layer, as well as a second charge transport material such as a charge transport compound or an electron transport compound in some embodiments. For example, the charge transport material and the charge generating compound can be in a single layer. In other embodiments, however, the photoconductive element comprises a bilayer construction featuring a charge generating layer and a separate charge transport layer. The charge generating layer may be located intermediate between the electrically conductive substrate and the charge transport layer. Alternatively, the photoconductive element may have a structure in which the charge transport layer is intermediate between the electrically conductive substrate and the charge generating layer.

[0041] The electrically conductive substrate may be flexible, for example in the form of a flexible web or a belt, or inflexible, for example in the form of a drum. A drum can have a hollow cylindrical structure that provides for attachment of the drum to a drive that rotates the drum during the imaging process. Typically, a flexible electrically conductive substrate comprises an electrically insulating substrate and a thin layer of electrically conductive material onto which the photoconductive material is applied.

[0042] The electrically insulating substrate may be paper or a film forming polymer such as polyester (e.g., polyeth-

ylene terephthalate or polyethylene naphthalate), polyimide, polysulfone, polypropylene, nylon, polyester, polycarbonate, polyvinyl resin, polyvinyl fluoride, polystyrene and the like. Specific examples of polymers for supporting substrates included, for example, polyethersulfone (STABAR™ S-100, available from ICI), polyvinyl fluoride (TEDLAR™, available from E.I. DuPont de Nemours & Company), polybisphenol-A polycarbonate (MAKROFOL™, available from Mobay Chemical Company) and amorphous polyethylene terephthalate (MELINAR™, available from ICI Americas, Inc.). The electrically conductive materials may be graphite, dispersed carbon black, iodine, conductive polymers such as polypyrroles and Calgon® conductive polymer 261 (commercially available from Calgon Corporation, Inc., Pittsburgh, Pa.), metals such as aluminum, titanium, chromium, brass, gold, copper, palladium, nickel, or stainless steel, or metal oxide such as tin oxide or indium oxide. In embodiments of particular interest, the electrically conductive material is aluminum. Generally, the photoconductor substrate has a thickness adequate to provide the required mechanical stability. For example, flexible web substrates generally have a thickness from about 0.01 to about 1 mm, while drum substrates generally have a thickness from about 0.5 mm to about 2 mm.

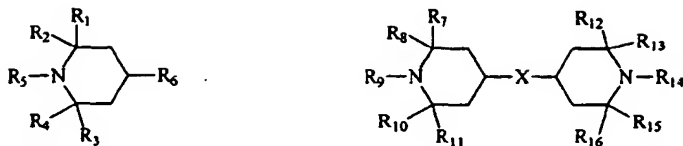
[0043] The charge generating compound is a material that is capable of absorbing light to generate charge carriers, such as a dye or pigment. Non-limiting examples of suitable charge generating compounds include, for example, metal-free phthalocyanines (e.g., ELA 8034 metal-free phthalocyanine available from H.W. Sands, Inc. or Sanyo Color Works, Ltd., CGM-X01), metal phthalocyanines such as titanium phthalocyanine, copper phthalocyanine, oxytitanium phthalocyanine (also referred to as titanyl oxyphthalocyanine, and including any crystalline phase or mixtures of crystalline phases that can act as a charge generating compound), hydroxygallium phthalocyanine, squarylium dyes and pigments, hydroxy-substituted squarylium pigments, perylimides, polynuclear quinones available from Allied Chemical Corporation under the trade name INDOFAST™ Double Scarlet, INDOFAST™ Violet Lake B, INDOFAST™ Brilliant Scarlet and INDOFAST™ Orange, quinacridones available from DuPont under the trade name MONASTRAL™ Red, MONASTRAL™ Violet and MONASTRAL™ Red Y, naphthalene 1,4,5,8-tetracarboxylic acid derived pigments including the perinones, tetrabenzoporphyrins and tetranaphthaloporphyrins, indigo- and thioindigo dyes, benzothioxanthene-derivatives, perylene 3,4,9,10-tetracarboxylic acid derived pigments, polyazo-pigments including bisazo-, trisazo- and tetrakisazo-pigments, polymethine dyes, dyes containing quinazoline groups, tertiary amines, amorphous selenium, selenium alloys such as selenium-tellurium, selenium-tellurium-arsenic and selenium-arsenic, cadmium selenide, cadmium selenide, cadmium sulphide, and mixtures thereof. For some embodiments, the charge generating compound comprises oxytitanium phthalocyanine (e.g., any phase thereof), hydroxygallium phthalocyanine or a combination thereof.

[0044] The photoconductive layer of this invention may optionally contain a second charge transport material which may be a charge transport compound, an electron transport compound, or a combination of both. Generally, any charge transport compound or electron transport compound known in the art can be used as the second charge transport material.

[0045] An electron transport compound and a UV light stabilizer can have a synergistic relationship for providing desired electron flow within the photoconductor. The presence of the UV light stabilizers alters the electron transport properties of the electron transport compounds to improve the electron transporting properties of the composite. UV light stabilizers can be ultraviolet light absorbers or ultraviolet light inhibitors that trap free radicals.

[0046] UV light absorbers can absorb ultraviolet radiation and dissipate it as heat. UV light inhibitors are thought to trap free radicals generated by the ultraviolet light and after trapping of the free radicals, subsequently to regenerate active stabilizer moieties with energy dissipation. In view of the synergistic relationship of the UV stabilizers with electron transport compounds, the particular advantages of the UV stabilizers may not be their UV stabilizing abilities, although the UV stabilizing ability may be further advantageous in reducing degradation of the organophotoreceptor over time. The improved synergistic performance of organophotoreceptors with layers comprising both an electron transport compound and a UV stabilizer are described further in copending U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 10/425,333 filed on April 28, 2003 to Zhu, entitled "Organophotoreceptor With A Light Stabilizer," published as US 2003/0228534 A1, incorporated herein by reference.

[0047] Non-limiting examples of suitable light stabilizer include, for example, hindered trialkylamines such as Tinuvin 144 and Tinuvin 292 (from Ciba Specialty Chemicals, Terrytown, NY), hindered alkoxydialkylamines such as Tinuvin 123 (from Ciba Specialty Chemicals), benzotriazoles such as Tinuvin 328, Tinuvin 900 and Tinuvin 928 (from Ciba Specialty Chemicals), benzophenones such as Sanduvor 3041 (from Clariant Corp., Charlotte, N.C.), nickel compounds such as ARBESTAB™ (from Robinson Brothers Ltd, West Midlands, Great Britain), salicylates, cyanocinnamates, benzylidene malonates, benzoates, oxanilides such as Sanduvor VSU (from Clariant Corp., Charlotte, N.C.), triazines such as Cyagard UV-1164 (from Cytec Industries Inc., N.J.), polymeric sterically hindered amines such as LUCHEM™ (from Atochem North America, Buffalo, NY). In some embodiments, the light stabilizer is selected from the group consisting of hindered trialkylamines having the following formula:



where R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄, R₆, R₇, R₈, R₁₀, R₁₁, R₁₂, R₁₃, R₁₅, R₁₆ are, each independently, hydrogen, alkyl group, or ester, or ether group; and R₅, R₉, and R₁₄ are, each independently, alkyl group; and X is a linking group selected from the group consisting of -O-CO-(CH₂)_m-CO-O- where m is between 2 to 20.

[0048] Optionally, the photoconductive layer may comprise a crosslinking agent linking the charge transport compound and the binder. As is generally true for crosslinking agents in various contexts, the crosslinking agent comprises a plurality of functional groups or at least one functional group with the ability to exhibit multiple functionality. Specifically, a suitable crosslinking agent generally comprises at least one functional group that reacts with an epoxy group and at least one functional group that reacts with a functional group of the polymeric binder. Non-limiting examples of suitable functional groups for reacting with the epoxy group include hydroxyl, thiol, an amino group, carboxyl group, or a combination thereof. In some embodiments, the functional group of the crosslinking agent for reacting with the polymeric binder does not react significantly with the epoxy group. In general, a person of ordinary skill in the art can select the appropriate functional group of the crosslinking agent to react with the polymeric binder, or similarly, a person of ordinary skill in the art can select appropriate functional groups of the polymeric binder to react with the functional group of the crosslinking agent. Suitable functional groups of the crosslinking agent that do not react significantly with the epoxy group, at least under selected conditions, include, for example, epoxy groups, aldehydes and ketones. Suitable reactive functional groups for reacting with the aldehydes and ketones include, for example, amines.

[0049] In some embodiments, the crosslinking agent is a cyclic acid anhydride, which effectively is at least bifunctional. Non-limiting examples of suitable cyclic acid anhydrides include, for example, 1,8-naphthalene dicarboxylic acid anhydride, itaconic anhydride, glutaric anhydride and citraconic anhydride, fumaric anhydride, phthalic anhydride, isophthalic anhydride, and terephthalic anhydride with maleic anhydride and phthalic anhydride being of particular interest.

[0050] The binder generally is capable of dispersing or dissolving the charge transport compound (in the case of the charge transport layer or a single layer construction) and/or the charge generating compound (in the case of the charge generating layer or a single layer construction). Examples of suitable binders for both the charge generating layer and charge transport layer generally include, for example, polystyrene-co-butadiene, polystyrene-co-acrylonitrile, modified acrylic polymers, polyvinyl acetate, styrene-alkyd resins, soya-alkyl resins, polyvinylchloride, polyvinylidene chloride, polyacrylonitrile, polycarbonates, polyacrylic acid, polyacrylates, polymethacrylates, styrene polymers, polyvinyl butyral, alkyd resins, polyamides, polyurethanes, polyesters, polysulfones, polyethers, polyketones, phenoxy resins, epoxy resins, silicone resins, polysiloxanes, poly(hydroxyether) resins, polyhydroxystyrene resins, novolak, poly(phenylglycidyl ether)-co-dicyclopentadiene, copolymers of monomers used in the above-mentioned polymers, and combinations thereof. In some embodiments, the binder comprises a polymer with a reactive hydrogen functionality, such as hydroxyl, thiol, an amino group, carboxyl group, or a combination thereof, that can react with the epoxy ring of the charge transport compounds of this invention or with a functional group of a crosslinking agent, such as a cyclic acid anhydride. In the organophotoreceptor, the functional group of the polymer can be bonded directly with the epoxy group or indirectly through a co-reactive crosslinking agent, for example, a cyclic acid anhydride group, to form the corresponding and predictable reaction product. Suitable binders with reactive functionality include, for example, polyvinyl butyral, such as BX-1 and BX-5 from Sekisui Chemical Co. Ltd., Japan.

[0051] Suitable optional additives for any one or more of the layers include, for example, antioxidants, coupling agents, dispersing agents, curing agents, surfactants, and combinations thereof.

[0052] The photoconductive element overall typically has a thickness from about 10 microns to about 45 microns. In the dual layer embodiments having a separate charge generating layer and a separate charge transport layer, charge generation layer generally has a thickness from about 0.5 microns to about 2 microns, and the charge transport layer has a thickness from about 5 microns to about 35 microns. In embodiments in which the charge transport material and the charge generating compound are in the same layer, the layer with the charge generating compound and the charge transport composition generally has a thickness from about 7 microns to about 30 microns. In embodiments with a distinct electron transport layer, the electron transport layer has an average thickness from about 0.5 microns to about 10 microns and in further embodiments from about 1 micron to about 3 microns. In general, an electron transport overcoat layer can increase mechanical abrasion resistance, increases resistance to carrier liquid and atmospheric moisture, and decreases degradation of the photoreceptor by corona gases. A person of ordinary skill in the art will recognize that additional ranges of thickness within the explicit ranges above are contemplated and are within the present disclosure.

[0053] Generally, for the organophotoreceptors described herein, the charge generation compound is in an amount from about 0.5 to about 25 weight percent, in further embodiments in an amount from about 1 to about 15 weight percent, and in other embodiments in an amount from about 2 to about 10 weight percent, based on the weight of the photoconductive layer. The charge transport material is in an amount from about 10 to about 80 weight percent, based on the weight of the photoconductive layer, in further embodiments in an amount from about 35 to about 60 weight percent, and in other embodiments from about 45 to about 55 weight percent, based on the weight of the photoconductive layer. The optional second charge transport material, when present, can be in an amount of at least about 2 weight percent, in other embodiments from about 2.5 to about 25 weight percent, based on the weight of the photoconductive layer, and in further embodiments in an amount from about 4 to about 20 weight percent, based on the weight of the photoconductive layer. The binder is in an amount from about 15 to about 80 weight percent, based on the weight of the photoconductive layer, and in further embodiments in an amount from about 20 to about 75 weight percent, based on the weight of the photoconductive layer. A person of ordinary skill in the art will recognize that additional ranges within the explicit ranges of compositions are contemplated and are within the present disclosure.

[0054] For the dual layer embodiments with a separate charge generating layer and a charge transport layer, the charge generation layer generally comprises a binder in an amount from about 10 to about 90 weight percent, in further embodiments from about 15 to about 80 weight percent and in some embodiments in an amount from about 20 to about 75 weight percent, based on the weight of the charge generation layer. The optional charge transport material in the charge generating layer, if present, generally can be in an amount of at least about 2.5 weight percent, in further embodiments from about 4 to about 30 weight percent and in other embodiments in an amount from about 10 to about 25 weight percent, based on the weight of the charge generating layer. The charge transport layer generally comprises a binder in an amount from about 20 weight percent to about 70 weight percent and in further embodiments in an amount from about 30 weight percent to about 50 weight percent. A person of ordinary skill in the art will recognize that additional ranges of binder concentrations for the dual layer embodiments within the explicit ranges above are contemplated and are within the present disclosure.

[0055] For the embodiments with a single layer having a charge generating compound and a charge transport material, the photoconductive layer generally comprises a binder, a charge transport material, and a charge generation compound. The charge generation compound can be in an amount from about 0.05 to about 25 weight percent and in further embodiment in an amount from about 2 to about 15 weight percent, based on the weight of the photoconductive layer. The charge transport material can be in an amount from about 10 to about 80 weight percent, in other embodiments from about 25 to about 65 weight percent, in additional embodiments from about 30 to about 60 weight percent and in further embodiments in an amount from about 35 to about 55 weight percent, based on the weight of the photoconductive layer, with the remainder of the photoconductive layer comprising the binder, and optional additives, such as any conventional additives. A single layer with a charge transport composition and a charge generating compound generally comprises a binder in an amount from about 10 weight percent to about 75 weight percent, in other embodiments from about 20 weight percent to about 60 weight percent, and in further embodiments from about 25 weight percent to about 50 weight percent. Optionally, the layer with the charge generating compound and the charge transport material may comprise a second charge transport material. The optional second charge transport material, if present, generally can be in an amount of at least about 2.5 weight percent, in further embodiments from about 4 to about 30 weight percent and in other embodiments in an amount from about 10 to about 25 weight percent, based on the weight of the photoconductive layer. A person of ordinary skill in the art will recognize that additional composition ranges within the explicit compositions ranges for the layers above are contemplated and are within the present disclosure.

[0056] In general, any layer with an electron transport compound can advantageously further include a UV light stabilizer. In particular, the electron transport layer generally can comprise an electron transport compound, a binder, and an optional UV light stabilizer. An overcoat layer comprising an electron transport compound is described further in copending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/396,536 to Zhu et al. entitled, "Organophotoreceptor With An Electron Transport Layer," published as US 2003/0194626 A1, incorporated herein by reference. For example, an electron transport compound as described above may be used in the release layer of the photoconductors described herein. The electron transport compound in an electron transport layer can be in an amount from about 10 to about 50 weight percent, and in other embodiments in an amount from about 20 to about 40 weight percent, based on the weight of the electron transport layer. A person of ordinary skill in the art will recognize that additional ranges of compositions within the explicit ranges are contemplated and are within the present disclosure.

[0057] The UV light stabilizer, if present, in any one or more appropriate layers of the photoconductor generally is in an amount from about 0.5 to about 25 weight percent and in some embodiments in an amount from about 1 to about 10 weight percent, based on the weight of the particular layer. A person of ordinary skill in the art will recognize that additional ranges of compositions within the explicit ranges are contemplated and are within the present disclosure.

[0058] For example, the photoconductive layer may be formed by dispersing or dissolving the components, such as one or more of a charge generating compound, the charge transport material of this invention, a second charge transport material such as a charge transport compound or an electron transport compound, a UV light stabilizer, and a polymeric

binder in organic solvent, coating the dispersion and/or solution on the respective underlying layer and drying the coating. In particular, the components can be dispersed by high shear homogenization, ball-milling, attritor milling, high energy bead (sand) milling or other size reduction processes or mixing means known in the art for effecting particle size reduction in forming a dispersion.

[0059] The photoreceptor may optionally have one or more additional layers as well. An additional layer can be, for example, a sub-layer or an overcoat layer, such as a barrier layer, a release layer, a protective layer, or an adhesive layer. A release layer or a protective layer may form the uppermost layer of the photoconductor element. A barrier layer may be sandwiched between the release layer and the photoconductive element or used to overcoat the photoconductive element. The barrier layer provides protection from abrasion and/or carrier liquid to the underlayers. An adhesive layer locates and improves the adhesion between a photoconductive element, a barrier layer and a release layer, or any combination thereof. A sub-layer is a charge blocking layer and locates between the electrically conductive substrate and the photoconductive element. The sub-layer may also improve the adhesion between the electrically conductive substrate and the photoconductive element.

[0060] Suitable barrier layers include, for example, coatings such as crosslinkable siloxanol-colloidal silica coating and hydroxylated silsesquioxane-colloidal silica coating, and organic binders such as polyvinyl alcohol, methyl vinyl ether/maleic anhydride copolymer, casein, polyvinyl pyrrolidone, polyacrylic acid, gelatin, starch, polyurethanes, polyimides, polyesters, polyamides, polyvinyl acetate, polyvinyl chloride, polyvinylidene chloride, polycarbonates, polyvinyl butyral, polyvinyl acetoacetal, polyvinyl formal, polyacrylonitrile, polymethyl methacrylate, polyacrylates, polyvinyl carbazoles, copolymers of monomers used in the above-mentioned polymers, vinyl chloride/vinyl acetate/vinyl alcohol terpolymers, vinyl chloride/vinyl acetate/maleic acid terpolymers, ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymers, vinyl chloride/vinylidene chloride copolymers, cellulose polymers, and mixtures thereof. The above barrier layer polymers optionally may contain small inorganic particles such as fumed silica, silica, titania, alumina, zirconia, or a combination thereof. Barrier layers are described further in U.S. Patent 6,001,522 to Woo et al., entitled "Barrier Layer For Photoconductor Elements Comprising An Organic Polymer And Silica," incorporated herein by reference. The release layer topcoat may comprise any release layer composition known in the art. In some embodiments, the release layer is a fluorinated polymer, siloxane polymer, fluorosilicone polymer, silane, polyethylene, polypropylene, polyacrylate, or a combination thereof. The release layers can comprise crosslinked polymers.

[0061] The release layer may comprise, for example, any release layer composition known in the art. In some embodiments, the release layer comprises a fluorinated polymer, siloxane polymer, fluorosilicone polymer, polysilane, polyethylene, polypropylene, polyacrylate, poly(methyl methacrylate-co-methacrylic acid), urethane resins, urethane-epoxy resins, acrylated-urethane resins, urethane-acrylic resins, or a combination thereof. In further embodiments, the release layers comprise crosslinked polymers.

[0062] The protective layer can protect the organophotoreceptor from chemical and mechanical degradation. The protective layer may comprise any protective layer composition known in the art. In some embodiments, the protective layer is a fluorinated polymer, siloxane polymer, fluorosilicone polymer, polysilane, polyethylene, polypropylene, polyacrylate, poly(methyl methacrylate-co-methacrylic acid), urethane resins, urethane-epoxy resins, acrylated-urethane resins, urethane-acrylic resins, or a combination thereof. In some embodiments of particular interest, the release layers are crosslinked polymers.

[0063] An overcoat layer may comprise an electron transport compound as described further in copending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/396,536, filed on March 25, 2003 to Zhu et al. entitled, "Organoreceptor With An Electron Transport Layer", published as US 2003/0194626 A1, incorporated herein by reference. For example, an electron transport compound, as described above, may be used in the release layer of this invention. The electron transport compound in the overcoat layer can be in an amount from about 2 to about 50 weight percent, and in other embodiments in an amount from about 10 to about 40 weight percent, based on the weight of the release layer. A person of ordinary skill in the art will recognize that additional ranges of composition within the explicit ranges are contemplated and are within the present disclosure.

[0064] Generally, adhesive layers comprise a film forming polymer, such as polyester, polyvinylbutyral, polyvinylpyrrolidone, polyurethane, polymethyl methacrylate, poly(hydroxy amino ether) and the like. Barrier and adhesive layers are described further in U.S. Patent 6,180,305 to Ackley et al., entitled "Organic Photoreceptors for Liquid Electrophotography," incorporated herein by reference.

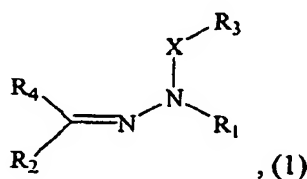
[0065] Sub-layers can comprise, for example, polyvinylbutyral, organosilanes, hydrolyzable silanes, epoxy resins, polyesters, polyamides, polyurethanes, celluloses, and the like. In some embodiments, the sub-layer has a dry thickness between about 20 Angstroms and about 20,000 Angstroms. Sublayers containing metal oxide conductive particles can be between about 1 and about 25 microns thick. A person of ordinary skill in the art will recognize that additional ranges of compositions and thickness within the explicit ranges are contemplated and are within the present disclosure.

[0066] The charge transport materials as described herein, and photoreceptors including these compounds, are suitable for use in an imaging process with either dry or liquid toner development. For example, any dry toners and liquid toners known in the art may be used in the process and the apparatus of this invention. Liquid toner development

can be desirable because it offers the advantages of providing higher resolution images and requiring lower energy for image fixing compared to dry toners. Examples of suitable liquid toners are known in the art. Liquid toners generally comprise toner particles dispersed in a carrier liquid. The toner particles can comprise a colorant/pigment, a resin binder, and/or a charge director. In some embodiments of liquid toner, a resin to pigment ratio can be from 1:1 to 10:1, and in other embodiments, from 4:1 to 8:1. Liquid toners are described further in Published U.S. Patent Applications 2002/0128349, entitled "Liquid Inks Comprising A Stable Organosol," and 2002/0086916, entitled "Liquid Inks Comprising Treated Colorant Particles," and U.S. Patent No. 6,649,316, entitled "Phase Change Developer For Liquid Electrophotography," all three of which are incorporated herein by reference.

Charge Transport Compound

[0067] This invention features an organophotoreceptor that comprises a charge transport compound having the formula



R_1 is an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group;

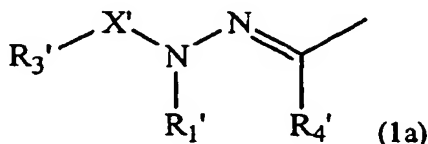
R_2 comprises an (N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group, such as a p-(N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group (e.g., triphenylamine), a carbazole group, or a julolidine group;

R_3 comprises an epoxy group;

R_4 is H, an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group; and

X is a first linking group, such as a $-(CH_2)_m-$ group, where m is an integer between 1 and 30, inclusive, and one or more of the methylene groups is optionally replaced by O, S, N, C, B, P, C=O, O=S=O, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, urethane, urea, an ester group, an NR_5 group, a CR_6 , or a CR_7R_8 group where R_5 , R_6 , R_7 , and R_8 are, each independently, a bond, H, hydroxyl, thiol, carboxyl, an amino group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, or part of a ring group.

[0068] In some embodiments, the (N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group in R_2 of Formula (1) may comprise one or more epoxidated hydrazone group having the formula



where R_1' is an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group;

R_3' comprises an epoxy, a hydroxyl, a thiol, a carboxyl, or an amine group;

R_4' is H, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, an aromatic group, or a heterocyclic group; and

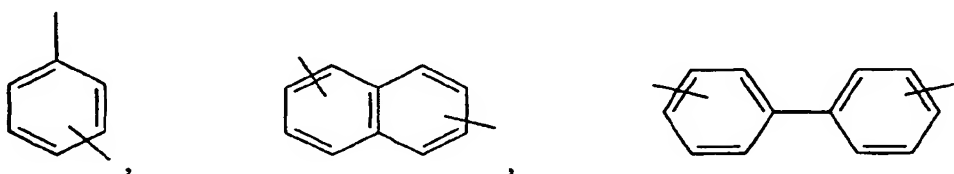
X' is a second linking group, such as a $-(CH_2)_n-$ group, where n is an integer between 1 and 30, inclusive, and one or more of the methylene groups is optionally replaced by O, S, N, C, B, P, C=O, O=S=O, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, urethane, urea, an ester group, an NR_9 group, a CR_{10} , or a $CR_{11}R_{12}$ group where R_9 , R_{10} , R_{11} , and R_{12} are, each independently, a bond, H, hydroxyl, thiol, carboxyl, an amino group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, or part of a ring.

[0069] When R_2 of Formula (1) comprises an epoxidated hydrazone group having Formula (1a) with R_3' being an epoxy group, the charge transport compounds of Formula (1) may be symmetrical or unsymmetrical. The charge transport compounds of Formula (1) is symmetrical when R_2 is symmetrical, X and X' are the same, R_1 and R_1' are the same, R_3 and R_3' are the same, and R_4 and R_4' are the same. The charge transport compounds of Formula (1) is unsymmetrical when R_2 is unsymmetrical, X and X' are different, R_1 and R_1' are different, R_3 and R_3' are different, and/or R_4 and R_4' are different.

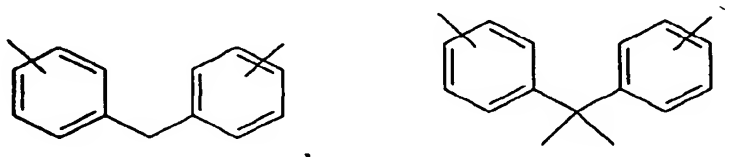
[0070] When the charge transport compounds having the structure of Formula (1) are incorporated into the organ-

ophotoreceptor, the epoxy group can react with functional groups of the appropriate binders. Suitable polymer functional groups include, for example, hydroxyl, thiol, an amino group, a carboxyl group, or a combination thereof. Such crosslinking to the binder stabilizes the organophotoreceptor structure and distribution of charge transport compound within the structure. However, it is possible that the epoxy functionality is essentially eliminated by the crosslinking reaction with the binder. The reaction of the epoxy functionality results in a particular chemical structure with a hydroxyl group at a position spaced by one carbon atom relative to a carbon atom bonded to an atom of the binder or crosslinking agent functional group that is involved in a nucleophilic addition at the epoxy functional group. Specifically, the resulting compound has a structure of $Y-CR_{13}R_{14}CR_{15}OH-X$, where Y is the bonded binder with or without a crosslinking agent. For convenience, the bonded epoxy functionality $Y-CR_{13}R_{14}CR_{15}OH-X$ is referred to herein as an epoxy group along with the group that maintains the epoxy functionality with the bridging oxygen atom.

[0071] The linking group X may be aliphatic, aromatic, or mixed aliphatic-aromatic. The linking group X may be a divalent radical such as aliphatic divalent hydrocarbon group and aromatic divalent hydrocarbon group. The linking group X may also have a valency higher than 2, such as 3, 4, 5, etc. Non-limiting examples of aliphatic divalent hydrocarbon group are $-(CH_2)_m-$, $-(CHR)_n-$, or $-(CR'R'')_k$ where k, m and n are, each independently, an integer between 1 and 20 and R, R', and R'' are, each independently, an alkyl group. Non-limiting examples of aromatic divalent hydrocarbon group have the following formulas:

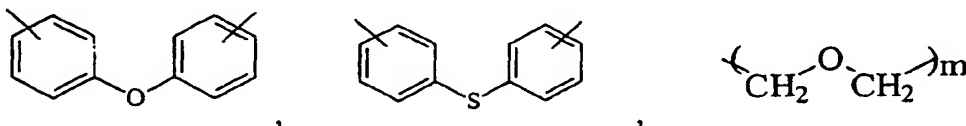


Non-limiting examples of mixed aliphatic-aromatic divalent hydrocarbon group have the following formulas:



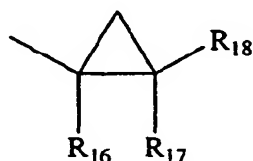
and other compounds can also include cyclic aliphatic groups.

[0072] The divalent hydrocarbon group X may also comprise a heteroatom such as N, S, and O, by substituting at least a carbon atom by a heteroatom provided that no two heteroatoms may be adjacent within the backbone of aliphatic divalent hydrocarbon groups. Non-limiting examples of such divalent hydrocarbon group have the following formulas:



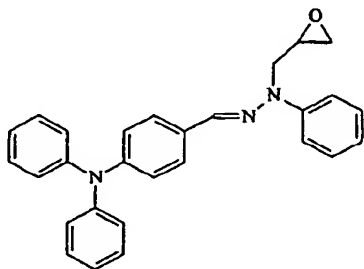
where m is an integer between 1 and 10.

[0073] The epoxy group R_3 and R_3' have, each independently, the following structure

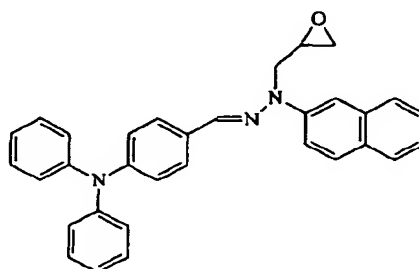


where the unlabeled bond corresponds to the bond attached to X, R_{18} is hydrogen, alkyl group, or aromatic group, and R_{16} and R_{17} are, each independently, hydrogen, alkyl group, aromatic group or, when fused together, the atoms necessary to form a 5-member, 6-member, or higher-member cycloaliphatic ring.

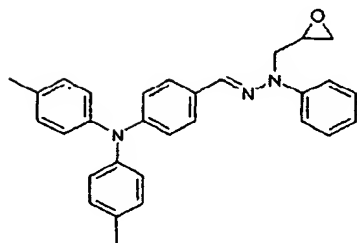
[0074] Specific, non-limiting examples of suitable charge transport compounds within Formula (1) of the present invention have the following structures:



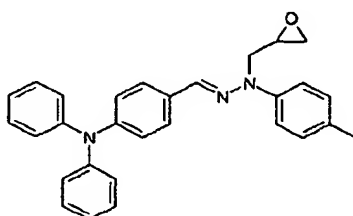
(2),



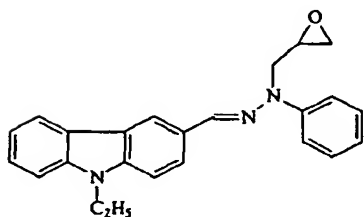
(3),



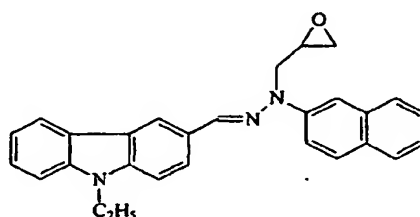
(4),



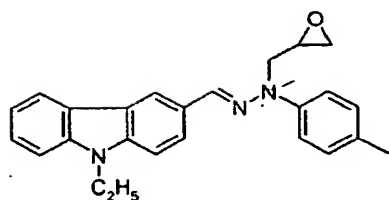
(5),



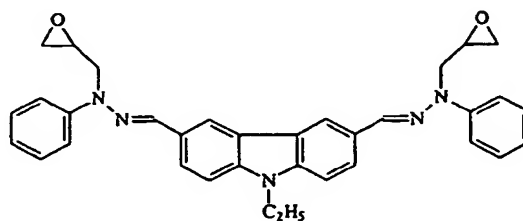
(6),



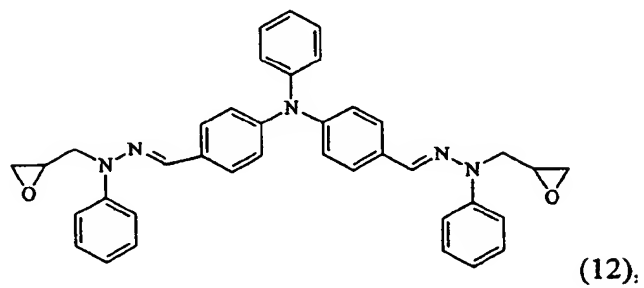
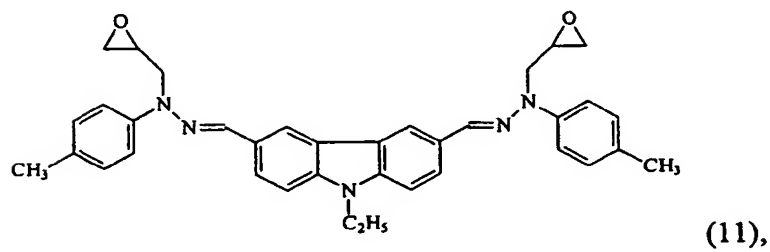
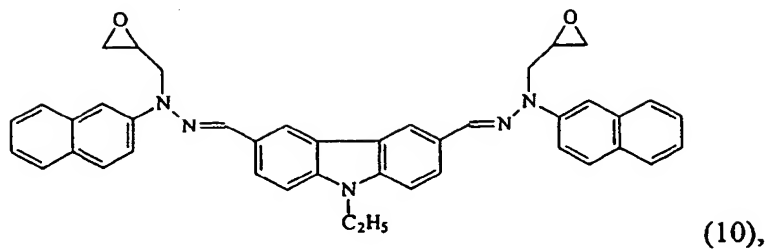
(7),



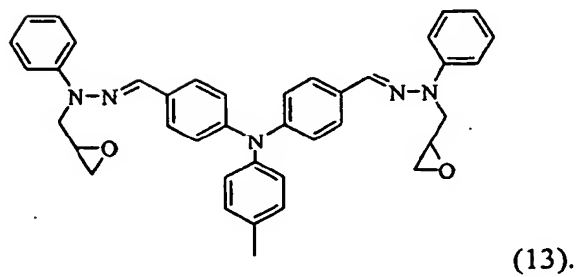
(8),



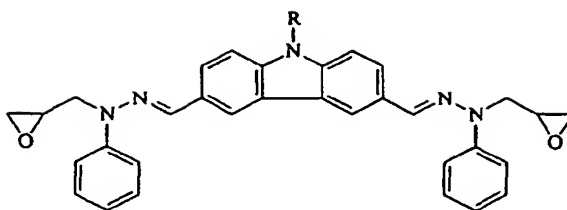
(9),



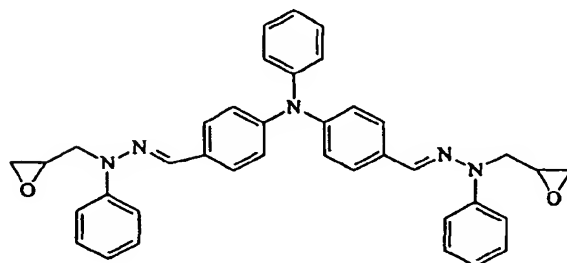
40 and



55 [0075] In a specific embodiment, the charge transport compound is selected from the group consisting of:



where R is hydrogen, an alkyl group, an aromatic group, or a heterocyclic group, and



Synthesis Of Charge Transport Compounds

[0076] The charge transport compounds with a hydrazone bonded to the epoxy group generally are synthesized by forming the desired substituted hydrazone which is reacted at the secondary amine to form the epoxy group with the selected X linking group. For example, the aromatic-substituted secondary amine reacts with the epichlorohydrin by way of the active hydrogen of the secondary amine in a base catalyzed reaction to form the epoxy group with a -CH₂- group (as the X-group) between the epoxy group and the amine. Other X groups can be formed using appropriate bifunctional reactants as described further below. The hydrazone is formed from the reaction of an aryl substituted hydrazine with an aldehyde or ketone having an (N,N-disubstituted)arylamine.

[0077] The aromatic-substituted hydrazine supplies the R₁ group from formula (1) above, and an (N,N-disubstituted) arylamino substituted aldehyde or ketone supplies the R₂ group of formula (1). In the reaction of the aldehyde or ketone with the hydrazine, the oxygen of the aldehyde/ketone group is replaced with the double bonded carbon.

[0078] While epichlorohydrin can be used to form the epoxy substituted compound with X = -CH₂-, alternatively other X groups can be formed, for example, using bifunctional group with a halogen and with a vinyl group (C=C) or substituted vinyl group. The halide group can be replaced by a bond to the secondary amine group of the hydrazone by a nucleophilic substitution. The vinyl or substituted vinyl group can be converted to the epoxy group in an epoxidation reaction, for example, by the reaction with perbenzoic acid or other peroxy acid, in an electrophilic addition reaction. Thus, the identity of X can be selected as desired through the introduction of a difunctional compound with a halide group and a vinyl/substituted- vinyl group.

[0079] Alternatively, some charge transport compounds of this invention can be prepared by reacting at least an aromatic or a heterocyclic aldehyde with a hydrazine to form the corresponding aromatic or heterocyclic hydrazone. The aromatic or heterocyclic hydrazone can then react with an organic halide comprising an epoxy group to form the corresponding epoxy charge transport compound. Non-limiting examples of suitable organic halide comprising an epoxy group for this invention are epihalohydrins, such as epichlorohydrin. The organic halide comprising an epoxy group can also be prepared by the epoxidation reaction of the corresponding organic halide having an olefin group. The epoxidation reaction is described in Carey et al., "Advanced Organic Chemistry, Part B: Reactions and Synthesis," New York, 1983, pp. 494-498, incorporated herein by reference. The organic halide having an olefin group can also be prepared by the Wittig reaction between a suitable organic halide having an aldehyde or ketone group and a suitable Wittig reagent. The Wittig and related reactions are described in Carey et al., "Advanced Organic Chemistry, Part B: Reactions and Synthesis," New York, 1983, pp. 69-77, incorporated herein by reference. The epoxy compound then reacts with ammonium thiocyanate in refluxing tetrahydrofuran (THF) to provide the corresponding thiiranyl compound of this invention.

[0080] Furthermore, some charge transport compounds of this invention can be prepared by reacting at least an

aromatic or a heterocyclic compound having multiple (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, etc.) aldehyde or ketone groups with a hydrazine to form the corresponding aromatic or heterocyclic di-hydrazone, tri-hydrazone, and tetra-hydrazone respectively. The multi-hydrazone (i.e., di-hydrazone, tri-hydrazone, tetra-hydrazone, etc.) may be symmetrical or unsymmetrical, depending on whether the aromatic or heterocyclic compound having multiple aldehyde or ketone groups is symmetrical or unsymmetrical. Alternatively, the aromatic or heterocyclic having multiple aldehyde or ketone groups can react with at least two different hydrazines in a molar ratio of 1:1 to form the corresponding unsymmetrical aromatic or heterocyclic di-hydrazone. The symmetrical or unsymmetrical multi-hydrazone can then react with an organic halide comprising an epoxy group to form the corresponding multi-epoxy compound such as di-epoxy compound, tri-epoxy compound, tetra-epoxy compound, etc. Alternatively, the symmetrical or unsymmetrical multi-hydrazone can react with two different organic halides comprising an epoxy group in a molar ratio of 1:1:1 to form the corresponding unsymmetrical multi-epoxy compound. In some embodiments, the linking group X' is added using a halide substituted reactant that further has a hydroxyl, a thiol, a carboxyl, or an amine group, in which the halide group is replaced with a bond to the secondary amine of the hydrazone. In this way, the non-epoxy groups for R₃' of Formula (1a) can be formed.

[0081] In some embodiments, the first step is the formylation of either a julolidine, a carbazole, or a p-(N,N-disubstituted)arylamine compound to the corresponding di-formyl compound. The second step is the formation of the corresponding di-hydrazone of the di-formyl compound by reacting a hydrazine with the diformyl compound in a molar ratio of 2:1. The last step is the reaction of an organic halide comprising an epoxy group, such as epichlorohydrin, with the di-hydrazone of the diformyl compound to form the corresponding charge transfer compound of this invention.

[0082] As noted above, the epoxy groups can be reacted with functional groups of a polymer binder directly or through a crosslinking agent. The reactions of epoxy groups with appropriate functional groups are described further in C.A. May, editor, "Epoxy Resins Chemistry And Technology," (Marcel Dekker, New York, 1988) and in B. Ellis, editor, "Chemistry And Technology Of Epoxy Resins," (Blackie Academic And Professional, London, 1993), both of which are incorporated herein by reference.

Hydrazines

[0083] All mono-substituted hydrazines, such as phenyl hydrazine and methyl hydrazine, may be used for this invention. Most of them are available from commercial suppliers, such as Aldrich, Milwaukee, WI. Some other hydrazines useful for this invention and their sources are shown below.

4-Methylsulfonylphenylhydrazine (Registry Number 877-66-7)

[0084] 4-Methylsulfonylphenylhydrazine is commercially available from Fisher Scientific USA, Pittsburgh, PA (1-800-766-7000).

1,1'-(Sulfonyldi-4, 1-phenylene)bishydrazine (Registry Number 14052-65-4)

[0085] 1,1'-(Sulfonyldi-4,1-phenylene)bishydrazine dihydrochloride is commercially available from Vitas-M, Moscow, Russia; (Phone: +7 (095) 939-5737).

Arylaldehydes

[0086] Representative arylaldehydes for reacting with the hydrazones can be obtained as follows.

Synthesis Of Julolidine Aldehyde

[0087] Julolidine (100 g, 0.6 moles, commercially obtained from Aldrich Chemicals Co, Milwaukee, WI 53201) was dissolved in dimethylformamide (DMF) (200 ml, commercially obtained from Aldrich) in a 500 ml three neck round bottom flask. The flask was cooled to 0 °C in ice bath. Phosphorus oxychloride (POCl₃) (107 g, 0.7 mole, Aldrich) was added drop wise while keeping the temperature below 5 °C. After the addition of POCl₃ was completed, the flask was warmed to room temperature and placed in a steam bath while stirring for a period of 1 hour. The flask was cooled to room temperature and the solution was added slowly to a large excess of distilled water with good agitation. Stirring was continued for additional 2 hours. The solid was filtered off and washed repeatedly with water until the pH of the effluent water became neutral. The product was dried in vacuum oven at 50 °C for 4 hours.

Other Aryl Aldehydes

[0088] Suitable commercially available (N,N-disubstituted)arylamine aldehydes are available from Aldrich (Milwaukee, WI).

kee, WI) including, for example, diphenylamino-benzaldehyde ((C₆H₅)₂NC₆H₄CHO) and 9-ethyl-3-carbazolecarboxy-aldehyde. Also, the synthesis of N-ethyl-3,6-diformylcarbazole is described below in the examples.

Synthesis of Hydrazones

[0089] A hydrazine can be reacted with an appropriate aromatic aldehyde or ketone to form a desired hydrazone charge transfer compound. The reactions can be catalyzed by an appropriate amount of concentrated acid, in particular sulfuric acid. After mixing in the catalytic amount of acid with the hydrazine and aromatic aldehyde, the mixture can be refluxed for about 2 hours to about 16 hours. The initial product can be purified by recrystallization. The syntheses of selected compounds from the formulas above are described below in the Examples, and the other compounds described herein can be similarly synthesized.

[0090] In some embodiments, the hydrazines may be obtained in an acidified hydrochloride form, as noted above. For these embodiments, the hydrazine hydrochloride can be reacted with an aqueous carbonate base while stirring the mixture. An excess of carbonate base can be added, such as 1.2 moles of potassium carbonate for embodiments with one mole of hydrazine hydrochloride per mole hydrazine or 2.4 moles of potassium carbonate for embodiments with one mole of hydrazine dihydrochloride per mole hydrazine. Some specific examples are presented below.

Reactions With A Crosslinking Agent

[0091] In general, the charge transport compound is combined with the binder and any other components of the particular layer of the organophotoreceptor for forming the particular layer. If a crosslinking agent is used, it may be desirable to react the crosslinking agent first with either the charge transport compound or with the polymer binder before combining the other ingredients. A person of ordinary skill in the art can evaluate the appropriate reaction order, such as combining all of the components at one time or sequentially, for forming the layer with desired properties.

[0092] The invention will now be described further by way of the following illustrative and non-limiting examples. These examples are to be viewed as being illustrative of specific materials falling within the broader disclosure presented above and are not to be viewed as limiting the broader disclosure in any way.

EXAMPLES

Example 1 - Preparation of Charge Transfer Compounds

[0093] This example describes the synthesis of five charge transfer compounds described above. Specifically, the synthesis of Compounds (2), (4), (6), (9), (12), and (13) corresponding to the formulas above is described.

Preparation of Compound (2)

[0094] Phenylhydrazine (0.1 mole, commercially available from Aldrich, Milwaukee, WI) and 4-(Diphenylamino) benzaldehyde (0.1 mole, available from Fluka, Buchs SG, Switzerland) were dissolved in 100 ml of isopropanol in a 250 ml 3-neck round bottom flask equipped with a reflux condenser and a mechanical stirrer. The solution was refluxed for 2 hours. Thin layer chromatography indicated the disappearance of the starting materials. At the end of the reaction, the mixture was cooled to room temperature. The 4-(diphenylamino) benzaldehyde phenylhydrazone crystals that formed upon standing were filtered off and washed with isopropanol and dried in a vacuum oven at 50 °C for 6 hours.

[0095] A mixture of 4-(diphenylamino) benzaldehyde phenylhydrazone (3.6 g, 0.01 mole), 85% powdered potassium hydroxide (2.0 g, 0.03 mole) and anhydrous potassium carbonate in 25 ml of epichlorohydrin was stirred vigorously at 55-60 °C for 1.5-2 hours. The course of the reaction was monitored using thin layer chromatography on silica gel 60 F254 plates (commercially available from Merck, Whitehouse Station, NJ) using a mixture of acetone and hexane in a volume ratio of 1:4 as eluant. After termination of the reaction, the mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with ether, and washed with water until the wash water had a neutral pH. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate, treated with activated charcoal, and filtered. Ether was removed and the residue was dissolved in a 1:1 volume per volume (v/v) mixture of toluene and isopropanol. The crystals formed upon standing were filtered off and washed with isopropanol to give 3.0 g of product (71.4% yield) with a melting point of 141-142.5 °C. The product was recrystallized from a 1:1 v/v mixture of toluene and isopropanol. The ¹H-NMR spectrum (250 MHz) of the product in CDCl₃ was characterized by the following chemical shifts (δ, ppm): 7.65-6.98 (m, 19H); 6.93 (t, J = 7.2Hz, 1H); 4.35 (dd, 1H); 3.99 (dd, 1H); 3.26 (m, 1H); 2.84 (dd, 1H); 2.62 (dd, 1H). An elemental analysis yielded the following results in weight percent: %C = 80.02, %H = 6.31, %N = 9.91, which compares with calculated values for C₂₈H₂₅N₃O of %C = 80.16, %H = 6.01, %N = 10.02.

Preparation of Compound (4)

[0096] Phenylhydrazine (0.1 mole, commercially available from Aldrich, Milwaukee, WI) and 4-(4,4'-dimethyldiphenylamino)benzaldehyde (0.1 mole, available from Syntec GmbH, Germany) were dissolved in 100 ml of isopropanol in a 250 ml 3-neck round bottom flask equipped with a reflux condenser and a mechanical stirrer. The solution was refluxed for 2 hours. Thin layer chromatography indicated the disappearance of the starting materials. At the end of the reaction, the mixture was cooled to room temperature. The 4-(4,4'-dimethyldiphenylamino)benzaldehyde phenylhydrazone crystals that formed upon standing were filtered off and washed with isopropanol and dried in a vacuum oven at 50 °C for 6 hours.

[0097] A mixture of 4-(4,4'-dimethyldiphenylamino)benzaldehyde phenylhydrazone (3.9g, 0.01 mole), 85% powdered potassium hydroxide (2.0 g, 0.03 mole) and anhydrous potassium carbonate in 25 ml of epichlorohydrin was stirred vigorously at 55-60 °C for 1.5-2 hours. The course of the reaction was monitored using thin layer chromatography on silica gel 60 F254 plates (commercially available from Merck, Whitehouse Station, NJ) using 1:4 v/v mixture of acetone and hexane as eluant. After termination of the reaction, the mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with ether, and washed with water until the wash water had a neutral pH. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate, treated with activated charcoal, and filtered. Ether was removed and the residue was purified by recrystallization from toluene followed by column chromatography (silica gel Merck grade 9385, 60 A, Aldrich; 4:1 v/v solution of hexane and acetone as the eluant). The yield of Compound 4 was 65.5 %. The ¹H-NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of the product in CDCl₃ was characterized by the following chemical shifts (δ, ppm): 7.62 (s, 1H); 7.55-6.90 (m, 17H); 4.35 (dd, 1H); 3.98 (dd, 1H); 3.27 (m, 1H); 2.85 (dd, 1H); 2.63 (dd, 1H); 2.32 (s, 6H). An elemental analysis yielded the following results in weight percent: %C = 80.42, %H = 6.41, %N = 9.21, which compares with calculated values for C₃₀H₂₉N₃O of %C = 80.51, %H = 6.53, %N = 9.39.

Preparation of Compound (6)

[0098] Phenylhydrazine (0.1 mole, commercially available from Aldrich, Milwaukee, WI) and 9-ethyl-3-carbazolecarboxaldehyde (0.1 mole, available from Aldrich Chemical, Milwaukee, WI) were dissolved in 100 ml of isopropanol in 250 ml 3-neck round bottom flask equipped with a reflux condenser and a mechanical stirrer. The solution was refluxed for 2 hours. Thin layer chromatography indicated the disappearance of the starting materials. At the end of the reaction, the mixture was cooled to room temperature. The 9-ethyl-3-carbazolecarbaldehyde phenylhydrazone crystals formed upon standing were filtered off and washed with isopropanol and dried in a vacuum oven at 50 °C for 6 hours.

[0099] A mixture of 9-ethyl-3-carbazolecarbaldehyde phenylhydrazone (3.1 g, 0.01 mole), 85% powdered potassium hydroxide (2.0 g, 0.03 mole) and anhydrous potassium carbonate in 25 ml of epichlorohydrin was stirred vigorously at 55-60 °C for 1.5-2 hours. The course of the reaction was monitored using thin layer chromatography on silica gel 60 F254 plates (commercially available from Merck) using 1:4 v/v mixture of acetone and hexane as eluant. After termination of the reaction, the mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with ether, and washed with water until the wash water had a neutral pH. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate, treated with activated charcoal, and filtered. Ether was removed and the residue was dissolved in a 1:1 v/v mixture of toluene and isopropanol. The crystals formed upon standing were filtered off and washed with isopropanol to give 3.0 g of product (81.2% yield) with a melting point of 136-137 °C. The product was recrystallized from 1:1 v/v mixture of toluene and isopropanol. The ¹H NMR spectrum (250 MHz) of the product in CDCl₃ was characterized by the following chemical shifts (δ, ppm): 8.35 (s, 1H); 8.14(d, J=7.8Hz, 1H); 7.93 (d, J= 7.6Hz, 1H); 7.90 (s, 1H); 7.54-7.20 (m, 8H); 6.96 (t, J=7.2Hz, 1H); 4.37 (m, 3H); 4.04 (dd, J1=4.3 Hz, J2 = 16.4 Hz, 1H); 3.32 (m, 1H), 2.88 (dd, 1H); 2.69 (dd, 1H); 1.44 (t, J=7.2 Hz, 3H). Elemental analysis yielded the following results in weight percent %C = 78.32, %H = 6.41, %N = 11.55; which compares with calculated values for C₂₄H₂₃N₃O of %C = 78.02, %H = 6.28, %N = 11.37.

Preparation of Compound (9)

[0100] A 271 ml quantity of DMF (3.5 mol) was added to a 1-liter, 3-neck round bottom flask equipped with a mechanical stirrer, a thermometer, and an addition funnel. The contents were cooled in a salt/ice bath. When the temperature inside the flask reached 0 °C, 326 ml of POCl₃ (3.5 mol) was slowly added. During the addition of POCl₃, the temperature inside the flask was not allowed to rise above 5 °C. After the addition of POCl₃, the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature. After the flask warmed to room temperature, N-ethylcarbazole (93 g) in 70 ml of DMF was added, and then the flask was heated to 90 °C for 24 hours using a heating mantle. Then; the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, and the reaction mixture was added slowly to a cooled 4.5 liter beaker containing a solution comprising 820 g of sodium acetate dissolved in 2 liters of water. The beaker was cooled in an ice bath and stirred for 3 hours. The brownish solid obtained was filtered and washed repeatedly with water, followed by a small amount of ethanol (50 ml). After washing, the resulting product was recrystallized once from toluene using

activated charcoal and dried under vacuum in an oven heated at 70 °C for 6 hours to obtain 55 g (46% yield) of N-ethyl-3,6-diformylcarbazole. The ¹H-NMR spectrum (250 MHz) of the product in CDCl₃ was characterized by the following chemical shifts (δ, ppm): 10.12 (s, 2H); 8.63 (s, 2H); 8.07 (d, 2H); 7.53 (d, 2H); 4.45 (m, 2H); 1.53 (t, 3H).

[0101] Phenylhydrazine (0.2 mole, commercially available from Aldrich, Milwaukee, WI) and N-ethyl-3,6-diformylcarbazole (0.1 mole) were dissolved in 100 ml of a 1:1 v/v mixture of toluene and THF in 250 ml 3-neck round bottom flask equipped with a reflux condenser and a mechanical stirrer. The solution was refluxed for 2 hours. Thin layer chromatography indicated the disappearance of the starting materials. At the end of the reaction, the mixture was cooled to room temperature. The N-ethyl-3,6-diformylcarbazole bis(N-phenylhydrazone) crystals formed upon standing were filtered off, washed with isopropanol and dried in a vacuum oven at 50 °C for 6 hours. Without further purification, the product was used for the next step.

[0102] A mixture of N-ethyl-3,6-diformylcarbazole bis(N-phenylhydrazone) (4.3 g, 0.01 mole), 85% powdered potassium hydroxide (2.0 g, 0.03 mole) and anhydrous potassium carbonate in 25 ml of epichlorohydrin was stirred vigorously at 55-60 °C for 1.5-2 hours. The course of the reaction was monitored using thin layer chromatography on silica gel 60 F254 plates (commercially available from Merck) using a 1:4 v/v mixture of acetone and hexane as eluant. After termination of the reaction, the mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with ether, and washed with water until the wash water had a neutral pH. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate, treated with activated charcoal, and filtered. Ether was removed and the residue was purified by recrystallization from toluene followed by column chromatography (silica gel Merck grade 9385, 60 A, Aldrich; 4:1 v/v solution of hexane and acetone as the eluant). The yield of Compound 9 was 68.5 %, and the product had a melting point of 119-120 °C (recrystallized from toluene). The ¹H-NMR spectrum (100 MHz) of the product in CDCl₃ was characterized by the following chemical shifts (δ, ppm): 8.5-7.8 (m, 8H); 7.6-7.2 (m, 8H); 7.0 (m, 2H); 4.55 (m, 6H); 3.3 (m, 2H); 2.9 (dd, 2H); 2.65 (dd, 2H); 1.4 (t, 3H). An elemental analysis yielded the following values in weight %: C 75.01; H 6.91; N 12.68. For comparison the calculated elemental weight percents for C₄₁H₄₆N₆O₂ are %: C 75.20; H 7.08; N 12.83.

Preparation of Compound (12)

[0103] Dimethylformamide (DMF, 271 ml, 3.5 mol, obtained from Aldrich, Milwaukee, WI) was added to a 1-liter 3-neck round-bottomed flask equipped with a mechanical stirrer, a thermometer, and a dropping funnel. The DMF in the flask was cooled on an ice bath with salt. When the temperature inside the flask reached 0 °C, phosphorous oxychloride (POCl₃, 326 ml, 3.5 mol, available from Aldrich, Milwaukee, WI) was added slowly to the flask through a dropping funnel. During the addition of POCl₃, the temperature inside the flask was not allowed to rise above 5 °C. After the addition of POCl₃ was completed, the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature. Triphenylamine (127 g, 0.5 mole, obtained from Aldrich, Milwaukee, WI) was added, and then the flask was heated to 90 °C for 24 hours using a heating mantle. After the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, it was added slowly to a 4.5 liter beaker containing a solution of 820 g of sodium acetate dissolved in 2 liters of water. The beaker was stirred and cooled on an ice bath for 3 hours. The resulting brownish solid was filtered and washed repeatedly with water and finally with a small amount of ethanol (50 ml). The resulting product, 4-(4-formyldiphenylamino)benzaldehyde, was recrystallized once from a mixture of toluene and isopropanol using activated charcoal and dried under vacuum in an oven heated at 50 °C for 6 hours. The yield was 86 g (55 %).

[0104] 4-(4-Formyldiphenylamino)benzaldehyde (60 g, 0.2 mol, prepared in previous step) and 250 ml of tetrahydrofuran were added to a 500 ml 2-neck round-bottomed flask equipped with a reflux condenser and a mechanical stirrer. The mixture was heated until the solids were dissolved. Then, a solution of 47 ml of N-phenylhydrazine (0.5 mol, obtained from Aldrich, Milwaukee, WI) in 50 ml of tetrahydrofuran was added slowly using a dropping funnel. The flask was refluxed until 4-(4-formyldiphenylamino) benzaldehyde disappeared (~10 min). At the end of the reaction, the mixture was cooled slowly to room temperature, and the solid was filtered off, washed with isopropanol, and dried at 300 °C under vacuum for 6 hours. The product was bis(N-phenyl)hydrazone of 4-(4-formyldiphenylamino)benzaldehyde. The yield was 80 g (84 %).

[0105] Bis(N-phenyl)hydrazone of 4-(4-formyldiphenylamino)benzaldehyde (77 g of 0.16 mol, prepared in previous step) and epichlorohydrin (283 ml, 3.6 mol, obtained from Aldrich, Milwaukee, WI) were added to a 1000 ml 3-neck round-bottomed flask equipped with a reflux condenser, a thermometer, and a mechanical stirrer. The reaction mixture was stirred vigorously at 35-40 °C for 7 hours. During the time in which the reaction mixture was stirred, powdered potassium hydroxide (85 %, 79 g, 1.2 mol) and anhydrous sodium sulfate (18.1 g, 0.14 mol) were added in three portions while the reaction mixture was kept at 20-25 °C. After the termination of the reaction, the mixture was cooled to room temperature and then filtered. The organic phase was treated with diethyl ether and then washed with distilled water until the pH of the washed water was neutral. The organic phase was dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate, treated with activated charcoal, and filtered. The solvents were removed. The residue was dissolved in 90 ml of toluene. The crystals formed upon standing were filtered off and washed with 2-propanol to yield 45 g (47 %) of 4-(4-formyldiphenylamino)benzaldehyde bis(N-2,3-epoxypropyl-N-phenyl)hydrazone. The melting point was found to be 163.5-165

°C (recrystallized from toluene). The ¹H NMR spectrum (100 MHz) of the product in CDCl₃ was characterized by the following chemical shifts (δ, ppm): 7.8-6.8 (m, 25H, Ar); 4.5-4.2 (dd, 2H, one proton of NCH₂); 4.1-3.8 (dd, 2H, another proton of NCH₂); 3.2 (m, 2H, CH); 2.8 (dd, 2H, one proton of OCH₂); and 2.7-2.5 (dd, another proton of OCH₂). An elemental analysis yielded the following results in weight percent: C 76.71; H 5.91; N 11.70. For comparison the calculated elemental weight percents for C₃₈H₃₅N₅O₂ are: C 75.20; H 7.08; N 12.83. C 76.87; H 5.94; N 11.80.

Preparation of Compound (13)

[0106] To a 1-liter, 3-neck round bottom flask equipped with a mechanical stirrer, a thermometer, and an addition funnel, was added 271 ml of dimethylformamide (DMF) (3.5 mol). The contents were cooled in a salt/ice bath. When the temperature inside the flask reached 0 °C, phosphorous oxychloride (POCl₃, 326 ml, 3.5 mol) was added slowly. During the addition of POCl₃, the temperature inside the flask was kept below 5 °C. After the addition of POCl₃ was completed, the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature. Next, 4-methyltriphenylamine (121 g, 0.47 mol) was added and the flask was heated to 90 °C for 24 hours using a heating mantle. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and the solution was added slowly to a 4.5-liter beaker containing a solution of 820 g sodium acetate dissolved in 2 liters of water. The beaker was cooled in an ice bath and stirred for 3 hours. The yellow solid obtained was filtered and washed repeatedly with water, followed by a small amount of 2-propanol (50 ml). The resulting product was recrystallized once from a mixture of isopropanol and tetrahydrofuran in a volume ratio of 9:1 v/v using activated charcoal. The product was dried in a vacuum oven at 50 °C for 6 hours to obtain 95.5 g (67 % yield) of 4,4'-diformyl-4"-methyltriphenylamine. The product had a melting point of 148.5-150.5 °C (recrystallized from a 9:1 v/v mixture of isopropanol and tetrahydrofuran). A ¹H-NMR spectrum (100 MHz) of the product in CDCl₃ was characterized by the following chemical shifts (δ, ppm): 9.8 (s, 2x 1H, CH=N); 7.9-7.2 (m, 12H, Ar); 2.3 (s, 3H, CH₃). An elemental analysis yielded the following results in weight percent: C 79.91; H 5.37; N 4.51, which compared with the following calculated values for C₂₁H₁₇NO₂ in weight percent: C 79.98; H 5.43; N 4.44.

[0107] To a 500 ml 2-neck round bottom flask equipped with a reflux condenser and a mechanical stirrer were added 86 g (0.27 mol) 4,4'-diformyl-4"-methyltriphenylamine and 250 ml of tetrahydrofuran (THF). Heating was applied until all solid entered into solution. Then a solution of 67 ml (0.68 mol) of phenylhydrazine (commercially obtained from Aldrich, Milwaukee, WI) in 50 ml of THF was added dropwise to the mixture. The flask was refluxed until 4,4'-diformyl-4"-methyltriphenylamine disappeared (~10 min). At the end of the reaction, the mixture was cooled slowly to room temperature and the solid was filtered off, washed with isopropanol, and dried at 30 °C under vacuum for 6 hours to obtain 125 g (93 %) of 4,4'-diformyl-4"-methyltriphenylamine bis(N-phenylhydrazone).

[0108] To a 1000 ml 3-neck round bottom flask equipped with a reflux condenser, a thermometer and a mechanical stirrer were added 125 g (0.25 mol) of 4,4'-diformyl-4"-methyltriphenylamine bis(N-phenylhydrazone) and 446 ml (5.6 mol) of epichlorohydrin. The reaction mixture was stirred vigorously at 35-40 °C for 7 hours. During the 7 hour period, 124.5 g (1.9 mol) of powdered 85 % potassium hydroxide and 28.7 g (0.23 mol) of anhydrous sodium sulfate were added in three portions while the reaction mixture was kept at 20-25 °C. After the termination of the reaction, the mixture was cooled to room temperature and filtered. The organic part was treated with diethyl ether and washed with distilled water until the washed water reached a neutral pH. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate, treated with activated charcoal, and filtered. The solvents were removed by evaporation. The product, 4,4'-diformyl-4"-methyltriphenylamine bis(N-2,3-epoxypropyl-N-phenylhydrazone), was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, grade 62, 60-200 mesh, 150 Å, Aldrich) using a 1:4 v/v mixture of acetone and hexane as the eluant. The yield was 80 g (52 %). A ¹H-NMR spectrum (100 MHz) of the product in CDCl₃ was characterized by the following chemical shifts (δ, ppm): 7.8-6.8 (m, 24H, CH=N, Ar); 4.5-4.2 (dd, 2H, one proton of NCH₂, (HA), JAX= 2.8 Hz, JAB= 16.5 Hz); 4.1-3.8 (dd, 2H, another proton of NCH₂, (HB), JBX= 4.4 Hz); 3.2 (m, 2H, CH); 2.8 (dd, 2H, one proton of OCH₂, (HB), JBX= 4.2 Hz, JBA= 4.9 Hz); 2.7-2.5 (dd, another proton of OCH₂, (HA), JAX= 2.7 Hz); 2.3 (s, 3H, CH₃). An elemental analysis yielded the following results in weight percent: C 76.98; H 6.17; N 11.61 which compared with the following calculated values for C₃₉H₃₇N₅O₂ in weight percent: C 77.08; H 6.14; N 11.52.

Example 2-Preparation of An Electron Transport Compound

[0109] This example describes the preparation of (4-n-butoxycarbonyl-9-fluorenylidene) malononitrile.

[0110] A 460 g quantity of concentrated sulfuric acid (4.7 moles, analytical grade, commercially obtained from Sigma-Aldrich, Milwaukee, WI) and 100 g of diphenic acid (0.41 mole, commercially obtained from Acros Fisher Scientific Company Inc., Hanover Park, IL) were added to a 1-liter 3-neck round bottom flask, equipped with a thermometer, a mechanical stirrer and a reflux condenser. Using a heating mantle, the flask was heated to 135-145 °C for 12 minutes, and then cooled to room temperature. After cooling to room temperature, the solution was added to a 4-liter Erlenmeyer flask containing 3 liter of water. The mixture was stirred mechanically and was boiled gently for one hour. A yellow solid was filtered out hot, washed with hot water until the pH of the wash-water was neutral, and dried in the air overnight.

The yellow solid was fluorenone-4-carboxylic acid. The yield was 75 g (80%). The product was then characterized. The melting point (m.p.) was found to be 223-224 °C. The ¹H-NMR spectrum (300 MHz from Bruker Instruments) of the fluorenone-4-carboxylic acid in d₆-DMSO solvent was characterized by the following chemical shifts (δ, ppm): 7.39-7.50 (m, 2H); 7.79 - 7.70 (q, 2H); 7.74 - 7.85 (d, 1H); 7.88 - 8.00 (d, 1H); and 8.18 - 8.30 (d, 1H); where d is doublet, t is triplet, m is multiplet; dd is double doublet, q is quintet.

[0111] A 70 g (0.312 mole) quantity of fluorenone-4-carboxylic acid, 480 g (6.5 mole) of n-butanol (commercially obtained from Fisher Scientific Company Inc., Hanover Park, IL), 1000 ml of toluene and 4 ml of concentrated sulfuric acid were added to a 2-liter round bottom flask equipped with a mechanical stirrer and a reflux condenser with a Dean Stark apparatus. With aggressive agitation and refluxing, the solution was refluxed for 5 hours, during which about 6 g of water were collected in the Dean Stark apparatus. The flask was cooled to room temperature. The solvents were evaporated, and the residue was added, with agitation, to 4 liters of a 3% sodium bicarbonate aqueous solution. The solid was filtered off, washed with water until the pH of the wash-water was neutral, and dried in the hood overnight. The product was n-butyl fluorenone-4-carboxylate ester. The yield was 70 g (80%). The ¹H NMR spectrum (300 MHz from Bruker Instrument) of the n-butyl fluorenone-4-carboxylate ester in CDCl₃ was characterized by the following chemical shifts (δ, ppm): 0.87 - 1.09 (t, 3H); 1.42 - 1.70 (m, 2H); 1.75 - 1.88 (q, 2H); 4.26 - 4.64 (t, 2H); 7.29 - 7.45 (m, 2H); 7.46 - 7.58 (m, 1H); 7.60 - 7.68 (dd, 1H); 7.75 - 7.82 (dd, 1H); 7.90 - 8.00 (dd, 1H); 8.25 - 8.35 (dd, 1H).

[0112] A 70 g (0.25 mole) quantity of n-butyl fluorenone-4-carboxylate ester, 750 ml of absolute methanol, 37 g (0.55 mole) of malononitrile (commercially obtained from Sigma-Aldrich, Milwaukee, WI), 20 drops of piperidine (commercially obtained from Sigma-Aldrich, Milwaukee, WI) were added to a 2-liter, 3-neck round bottom flask equipped with a mechanical stirrer and a reflux condenser. The solution was refluxed for 8 hours, and the flask was cooled to room temperature. The orange crude product was filtered, washed twice with 70 ml of methanol and once with 150 ml of water, and dried overnight in the hood. This orange crude product was recrystallized from a mixture of 600 ml of acetone and 300 ml of methanol using activated charcoal. The flask was placed at 0 °C for 16 hours. The crystals were filtered and dried in a vacuum oven at 50 °C for 6 hours to obtain 60 g of pure (4-n-butoxycarbonyl-9-fluorenylidene) malononitrile. The melting point (m.p.) of the solid was found to be 99-100 °C. The ¹H-NMR spectrum (300 MHz) of the (4-n-butoxycarbonyl-9-fluorenylidene) malononitrile in CDCl₃ was characterized by the following chemical shifts (δ, ppm): 0.74 - 1.16 (t, 3H), 1.38 - 1.72 (m, 2H), 1.70 - 1.90 (q, 2H), 4.29 - 4.55 (t, 2H), 7.31 - 7.43 (m, 2H), 7.45 - 7.58 (m, 1H), 7.81 - 7.91 (dd, 1H), 8.15 - 8.25 (dd, 1H), 8.42 - 8.52 (dd, 1H), 8.56 - 8.66 (dd, 1H).

Example 3 - Forming Organophotoreceptors

[0113] This example describes the characterization of Compounds (2), (6), and (9), as described in Example 1 above. The characterization involves chemical characterization, while the electronic characterization of materials formed with the compound are described in subsequent examples.

Sample 1

[0114] Sample 1 was a single layer organophotoreceptor having a 76.2 micron (3 mil) thick polyester substrate with a layer of vapor-coated aluminum (commercially obtained from CP Films, Martinsville, VA). The coating solution for the single layer organophotoreceptor was prepared by combining 1.87 g of Compound (2), 0.54 g of a (4-n-butoxycarbonyl-9-fluorenylidene) malononitrile, and 9.37 g of tetrahydrofuran, which were shaken until the all components were dissolved. A 7.4 g quantity of a 14 wt% polyvinyl butyral resin (BX-1, commercially obtained from Sekisui Chemical Co. Ltd., Japan) in tetrahydrofuran pre-mix solution and 0.83 g of a CGM mill-base containing 18.5 wt% of titanyl oxyphthalocyanine plus polyvinyl butyral resin at a weight ratio of 2.3:1 (BX-5, commercially obtained from Sekisui Chemical Co. Ltd., Japan) in tetrahydrofuran were added to the coating solution.

[0115] The CGM mill-base was obtained by milling 112.7 g of titanyl oxyphthalocyanine (commercially obtained from H. W. Sands Corp., Jupiter, FL) with 49 g of the polyvinyl butyral resin (BX-5) in 651 g of methylethylketone on a horizontal sand mill (model LMC12 DCMS, commercially obtained from Netzsch Incorporated, Exton, PA) with 1-micron zirconium beads using recycle mode for 4 hours.

[0116] After mixing the solution on a mechanical shaker for about 1 hour, the single layer coating solution was coated onto the substrate described above using a knife coater with a 94 micron orifice followed by drying in an oven at 110 °C for 5 minutes.

Sample 2

[0117] A single layer organophotoreceptor coating solution for forming sample 2 was prepared by combining 1.87 g of Compound (2), 0.54 g of a (4-n-butoxycarbonyl-9-fluorenylidene) malononitrile, and 9.37 g of tetrahydrofuran, which were shaken until all the components were dissolved. A 7.4 g of a 14 wt% polyvinyl butyral resin (BX-1, commercially

obtained from Sekisui Chemical Co. Ltd., Japan) in tetrahydrofuran pre-mix solution, 0.65 g of phthalic anhydride (Aldrich Chemical) in 3.0 g of tetrahydrofuran, and 0.83 g of a CGM mill-base containing 18.5 wt% of titanyl oxyphthalocyanine plus polyvinyl butyral resin at a weight ratio of 2.3:1 (BX-5, commercially obtained from Sekisui Chemical Co. Ltd., Japan) in tetrahydrofuran were added to the coating solution. The CGM mill-base was prepared as described for Sample 1.

[0118] After mixing the solution on a mechanical shaker for about 1 hour, the single layer coating solution was coated onto an equivalent substrate as described for Sample 1 using a knife coater with a 94 micron orifice followed by drying in an oven at 110 °C for 5 minutes.

Sample 3

[0119] A single layer organophotoreceptor coating solution for forming sample 3 was prepared by combining 1.87 g of Compound (2), 0.54 g of a (4-n-butoxycarbonyl-9-fluorenylidene) malononitrile, and 9.37 g of tetrahydrofuran, which were shaken until all the components were dissolved. A 7.4 g quantity of a 14 wt% polyvinyl butyral resin (BX-1, commercially obtained from Sekisui Chemical Co. Ltd., Japan) in tetrahydrofuran pre-mix solution, 0.43 g of maleic anhydride (Aldrich Chemical) in 2.0 g of tetrahydrofuran, and 0.83 g of a CGM mill-base containing 18.5 wt% of titanyl oxyphthalocyanine plus polyvinyl butyral resin at a ratio of 2.3:1 (BX-5, commercially obtained from Sekisui Chemical Co. Ltd., Japan) in tetrahydrofuran were added to this mixture. The CGM mill-base was prepared as described for Sample 1.

[0120] After mixing the solution on a mechanical shaker for about 1 hour, the single layer coating solution was coated onto an equivalent substrate as described for Sample 1 using a knife coater with a 94 micron orifice followed by drying in an oven at 110 °C for 5 minutes.

Sample 4

[0121] A single layer organophotoreceptor coating solution for forming sample 4 was prepared by combining 1.59 g of Compound (2), 2.29 g of a 20 wt% (4-n-butoxycarbonyl-9-fluorenylidene) malononitrile in tetrahydrofuran pre-mix solution, 4.0 g of tetrahydrofuran, 7.91 g of a 11.1 wt% polyvinyl butyral resin (BX-5, commercially obtained from Sekisui Chemical Co. Ltd., Japan) in tetrahydrofuran pre-mix solution, and 0.7 g of a CGM mill-base containing 18.7 wt% of titanyl oxyphthalocyanine plus polyvinyl butyral resin at a ratio of 2.3:1 (BX-5, commercially obtained from Sekisui Chemical Co. Ltd., Japan) in tetrahydrofuran. The CGM mill-base was prepared as described for Sample 1.

[0122] After mixing the solution on a mechanical shaker for about 1 hour, 0.5 g of a 10 wt% triethylamine solution in tetrahydrofuran was added, the coating solution was briefly shaken, and then coated onto an equivalent substrate as described for Sample 1 using a knife coater with a 94 micron orifice followed by drying in an oven at 85 °C for 15 minutes.

Sample 5

[0123] A single layer organophotoreceptor coating solution for preparing sample 5 was prepared by combining 1.33 g of Compound (2), 1.91 g of a 20 wt% (4-n-butoxycarbonyl-9-fluorenylidene) malononitrile in tetrahydrofuran pre-mix solution, 0.5 g of phthalic anhydride (Aldrich Chemical) in 5.5 g of tetrahydrofuran, 6.6 g of a 11.1 wt% polyvinyl butyral resin (BX-5, commercially obtained from Sekisui Chemical Co. Ltd., Japan) in tetrahydrofuran pre-mix solution, and 0.7 g of a CGM mill-base containing 18.7 wt% of titanyl oxyphthalocyanine plus polyvinyl butyral resin at a ratio of 2.3:1 (BX-5, commercially obtained from Sekisui Chemical Co. Ltd., Japan) in tetrahydrofuran. The CGM mill-base was prepared as described for Sample 1.

[0124] After mixing the solution on a mechanical shaker for about 1 hour, 0.5 g of a 10 wt% triethylamine solution in tetrahydrofuran was added, the coating solution was briefly shaken, and then coated onto an equivalent substrate as described for Sample 1 using a knife coater with a 94 micron orifice followed by drying in an oven at 85 °C for 15 minutes.

Sample 6

[0125] Sample 6 was prepared as described above for Sample 1 except that 1.87 g of Compound (6) was substituted for Compound (2).

Sample 7

[0126] Sample 7 was prepared as described above for Sample 2 except that 1.87 g of Compound (6) was substituted for Compound (2), and 0.75 g of phthalic anhydride in 3.4 g of tetrahydrofuran was added instead of the amounts listed for Sample 2.

Sample 8

5 **[0127]** Sample 8 was prepared as described above for Sample 3 except that 1.87 g of Compound (6) was substituted for the Compound (2) and that 0.5 g of maleic anhydride in 2.3 g of tetrahydrofuran was added instead of the amounts of maleic anhydride listed for Sample 3.

Sample 9

10 **[0128]** Sample 9 was prepared as described above for Sample 4 except that 1.59 g of Compound (6) was substituted for Compound (2).

Sample 10

15 **[0129]** Sample 10 was prepared as described above for Sample 5 except that 1.33 g of Compound (6) was substituted for Compound (2).

Sample 11

20 **[0130]** Sample 11 was prepared as described above for Sample 1 except that 1.87 g of Compound (9) was substituted for Compound (2).

Sample 12

25 **[0131]** Sample 12 was prepared as described above for Sample 2 except that 1.87 g of Compound (9) was substituted for Compound (2), and 1.1 g of phthalic anhydride in 5.0 g of tetrahydrofuran was added instead of the amounts listed for Sample 2.

Sample 13

30 **[0132]** Sample 13 was prepared as described above for Sample 3 except that 1.87 g of Compound (9) was substituted for the Compound (2) and that 0.7 g of maleic anhydride in 3.2 g of tetrahydrofuran was added instead of the amounts of maleic anhydride listed for Sample 3.

Sample 14

35 **[0133]** Sample 14 was prepared as described above for Sample 4 except that 1.59 g of Compound (9) was substituted for Compound (2).

Sample 15

40 **[0134]** Sample 15 was prepared as described above for Sample 5 except that 1.33 g of Compound (9) was substituted for Compound (2).

Comparative Sample A

45 **[0135]** To form Comparative Sample A, a single layer organophotoreceptor coating solution was prepared by combining 1.87 g of MPCT-10 (a charge transfer material, commercially obtained from Mitsubishi Paper Mills, Tokyo, Japan), 0.54 g of a (4-n-butoxycarbonyl-9-fluorenylidene) malononitrile, and 9.37 g of tetrahydrofuran, which was shaken until all the components were dissolved. A 7.4 g quantity of a 14 wt% polyvinyl butyral resin (BX-1, commercially obtained from Sekisui Chemical Co. Ltd., Japan) in tetrahydrofuran pre-mix solution and 0.83 g of a CGM mill-base containing 18.5 wt% of titanyl oxyphthalocyanine plus polyvinyl butyral resin at a ratio of 2.3:1 (BX-5, commercially obtained from Sekisui Chemical Co. Ltd., Japan) in tetrahydrofuran were added to the coating solution. The CGM mill-base was prepared as described for Sample 1.

50 **[0136]** After mixing the solution on a mechanical shaker for about 1 hour, the single layer coating solution was coated onto an equivalent substrate as described for Sample 1 using a knife coater with a 94 micron orifice followed by drying in an oven at 110 °C for 5 minutes.

Comparative Sample B

[0137] To form comparative Sample B, a single layer organophotoreceptor coating solution was prepared by combining 1.87 g of MPCT-10 (a charge transfer material, commercially obtained from Mitsubishi Paper Mills, Tokyo, Japan), 0.54 g of a (4-n-butoxycarbonyl-9-fluorenylidene) malononitrile, and 9.37 g of tetrahydrofuran, which was shaken until the components dissolved. A 7.4 g quantity of a 14 wt% polyvinyl butyral resin (BX-1, commercially obtained from Sekisui Chemical Co. Ltd., Japan) in tetrahydrofuran pre-mix solution, 0.65 g of phthalic anhydride (Aldrich Chemical) in 3.0 g of tetrahydrofuran, and 0.83 g of a CGM mill-base containing 18.5 wt% of titanyl oxyphthalocyanine plus polyvinyl butyral resin at a ratio of 2.3:1 (BX-5, commercially obtained from Sekisui Chemical Co. Ltd., Japan) in tetrahydrofuran were added to the coating solution. The CGM mill-base was prepared as described for Sample 1.

[0138] After mixing the solution on a mechanical shaker for about 1 hour, the single layer coating solution was coated onto an equivalent substrate as described for Sample 1 using a knife coater with a 94 micron orifice followed by drying in an oven at 110 °C for 5 minutes.

Comparative Sample C

[0139] To form comparative Sample C, a single layer organophotoreceptor coating solution was prepared by combining 1.87 g of MPCT-10 (a charge transfer material, commercially obtained from Mitsubishi Paper Mills, Tokyo, Japan), 0.54 g of a (4-n-butoxycarbonyl-9-fluorenylidene) malononitrile, and 9.37 g of tetrahydrofuran, which was shaken until all the components were dissolved. Added to this mixture was 7.4 g of a 14 wt% polyvinyl butyral resin (BX-1, commercially obtained from Sekisui Chemical Co. Ltd., Japan) in tetrahydrofuran pre-mix solution, 0.44 g of maleic anhydride (Aldrich Chemical) in 2.0 g of tetrahydrofuran, and 0.83 g of a CGM mill-base containing 18.5 wt% of titanyl oxyphthalocyanine plus polyvinyl butyral resin at a ratio of 2.3:1 (BX-5, commercially obtained from Sekisui Chemical Co. Ltd., Japan) in tetrahydrofuran. The CGM mill-base was prepared as described for Sample 1.

[0140] After mixing the solution on a mechanical shaker for about 1 hour, the single layer coating solution was coated onto an equivalent substrate as described for Sample 1 using a knife coater with a 94 micron orifice followed by drying in an oven at 110 °C for 5 minutes.

Comparative Sample D

[0141] To form Comparative Sample D, a single layer organophotoreceptor coating solution was prepared by combining 1.59 g of MPCT-10 (a charge transfer material, commercially obtained from Mitsubishi Paper Mills, Tokyo, Japan), 2.29 g of a 20 wt% (4-n-butoxycarbonyl-9-fluorenylidene) malononitrile in tetrahydrofuran pre-mix solution, 4.0 g of tetrahydrofuran, 7.9 g of a 11.1 wt% polyvinyl butyral resin (BX-5, commercially obtained from Sekisui Chemical Co. Ltd., Japan) in tetrahydrofuran pre-mix solution, and 0.7 g of a CGM mill-base containing 18.7 wt% of titanyl oxyphthalocyanine plus polyvinyl butyral resin at a ratio of 2.3:1 (BX-5, commercially obtained from Sekisui Chemical Co. Ltd., Japan) in tetrahydrofuran. The CGM mill-base was prepared as described for Sample 1.

[0142] After mixing the solution on a mechanical shaker for about 1 hour, 0.5 g of a 10 wt% triethylamine solution in tetrahydrofuran was added, the coating solution was briefly shaken, and then coated onto an equivalent substrate as described for Sample 1 using a knife coater with a 94 micron orifice followed by drying in an oven at 85 °C for 15 minutes.

Comparative Sample E

[0143] To form Comparative Sample E, a single layer organophotoreceptor coating solution was prepared by combining 1.33 g of MPCT-10 (a charge transfer material, commercially obtained from Mitsubishi Paper Mills, Tokyo, Japan), 1.91 g of a 20 wt% (4-n-butoxycarbonyl-9-fluorenylidene) malononitrile in tetrahydrofuran pre-mix solution, 0.5 g of phthalic anhydride (Aldrich Chemical) in 5.5 g of tetrahydrofuran, 6.6 g of a 11.1 wt% polyvinyl butyral resin (BX-5, commercially obtained from Sekisui Chemical Co. Ltd., Japan) in tetrahydrofuran pre-mix solution, and 0.7 g of a CGM mill-base containing 18.7 wt% of titanyl oxyphthalocyanine plus polyvinyl butyral resin at a ratio of 2.3:1 (BX-5, commercially obtained from Sekisui Chemical Co. Ltd., Japan) in tetrahydrofuran. The CGM mill-base was prepared as described for Sample 1.

[0144] After mixing the solution on a mechanical shaker for about 1 hour, 0.5 g of a 10 wt% triethylamine solution in tetrahydrofuran was added, the coating solution was briefly shaken, and then coated onto an equivalent substrate as described for Sample 1 using a knife coater with a 94 micron orifice followed by drying in an oven at 85 °C for 15 minutes.

Example 4 - Dry Electrostatic Testing And Properties Of Organophotoreceptors

[0145] This example provides results of electrostatic testing on the organophotoreceptor samples formed as de-

scribed in Example 3.

[0146] Electrostatic cycling performance of organophotoreceptors described herein with the epoxy modified hydrazone-based compounds was determined using in-house designed and developed test bed that can test, for example, up to three sample strips wrapped around a 160 mm diameter drum. The results on these samples are indicative of results that would be obtained with other support structures, such as belts, drums and the like, for supporting the organophotoreceptors.

[0147] For testing using a 160 mm diameter drum, three coated sample strips, each measuring 50 cm long by 8.8 cm wide, were fastened side-by-side and completely around an aluminum drum (50.3 cm circumference). In some embodiments, at least one of the strips is a control sample that is precision web coated and used as an internal reference point. A control sample with an inverted dual layer structure was used as an internal check of the tester. In this electrostatic cycling tester, the drum rotated at a rate of 8.13 cm /sec (3.2ips), and the location of each station in the tester (distance and elapsed time per cycle) is given as shown in Table 1 below.

Table 1

| Electrostatic test stations around the 160 mm diameter drum at 8.13 cm /sec. | | | |
|--|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Station | Degrees | Total Distance, cm | Total Time, sec |
| Front erase bar edge | 0° | Initial, 0 cm | Initial, 0 s |
| Erase Bar | 0 - 7.2° | 0 - 1.0 | 0-0.12 |
| Scorotron Charger | 113.1 - 135.3° | 15.8 - 18.9 | 1.94 - 2.33 |
| Laser Strike | 161.0° | 22.5 | 2.77 |
| Probe #1 | 181.1° | 25.3 | 3.11 |
| Probe #2 | 251.2° | 35.1 | 4.32 |
| Erase bar | 360° | 50.3 | 6.19 |

The erase bar is an array of laser emitting diodes (LED) with a wavelength of 720 nm that discharges the surface of the organophotoreceptor. The scorotron charger comprises a wire that permits the transfer of a desired amount of charge to the surface of the organophotoreceptor.

[0148] From the above table, the first electrostatic probe (TREK™ 344 electrostatic meter, Trek, Inc. Medina, NY) is located 0.34 s after the laser strike station and 0.78 s after the scorotron while the second probe (TREK™ 344 electrostatic meter) is located 1.21 s from the first probe and 1.99 s from the scorotron. All measurements are performed at ambient temperature and relative humidity.

[0149] Electrostatic measurements were obtained as a compilation of several runs on the test station. The first three diagnostic tests (prodtest initial, VlogE initial, dark decay initial) were designed to evaluate the electrostatic cycling of a new, fresh sample and the last three, identical diagnostic test (prodtest final, VlogE final, dark decay final) are run after cycling of the sample. In addition, measurements were made periodically during the test, as described under "longrun" below. The laser is operated at 780nm wavelength, 600dpi, 50 micron spot size, 60 nanoseconds / pixel expose time, 1,800 lines per second scan speed, and a 100% duty cycle. The duty cycle is the percent exposure of the pixel clock period, i.e., the laser is on for the full 60 nanoseconds per pixel at a 100% duty cycle. Electrostatic Test Suite:

1) PRODTST: Charge acceptance (V_{acc}) and discharge voltage (V_{dis}) were established by subjecting the samples to corona charging (erase bar always on) for three complete drum revolutions (laser off); discharged with the laser @ 780nm & 600dpi on the forth revolution (50 um spot size, expose 60 nanoseconds / pixel, run at a scan speed of 1,800 lines per second, and use a 100% duty cycle); completely charged for the next three revolutions (laser off); discharged with only the erase lamp @ 720nm on the eighth revolution (corona and laser off) to obtain residual voltage (V_{res}); and, finally, completely charged for the last three revolutions (laser off). The contrast voltage (V_{con}) is the difference between V_{acc} and V_{dis} and the functional dark decay (V_{dd}) is the difference in charge acceptance potential measured by probes #1 and #2.

2) VLOGE: This test measures the photoinduced discharge of the photoconductor to various laser intensity levels by monitoring the discharge voltage of the sample as a function of the laser power (exposure duration of 50 ns) with fixed exposure times and constant initial potentials. The functional photosensitivity, S_{780nm} , and operational power settings was determined from this diagnostic test.

3) DARK DECAY: This test measures the loss of charge acceptance in the dark with time without laser or erase illumination for 90 seconds and can be used as an indicator of i) the injection of residual holes from the charge generation layer to the charge transport layer, ii) the thermal liberation of trapped charges, and iii) the injection of charge from the surface or aluminum ground plane.

4) LONGRUN: The sample was electrostatically cycled for 100 drum revolutions according to the following sequence per each sample-drum revolution. The sample was charged by the corona, the laser was cycled on and off (80-100° sections) to discharge a portion of the sample and, finally, the erase lamp discharged the whole sample in preparation for the next cycle. The laser was cycled so that the first section of the sample was never exposed, the second section was always exposed, the third section was never exposed, and the final section was always exposed. This pattern was repeated for a total of 100 drum revolutions, and the data was recorded periodically, after every 5th cycle for the 100 cycle longrun.

5) After the LONGRUN test, the PRODTEST, VLOGE, DARK DECAY diagnostic tests were run again.

[0150] The following Table shows the results from the initial and final prodtest diagnostic tests. The values for the charge acceptance voltage (V_{acc} , probe #1 average voltage obtained from the third cycle), discharge voltage (V_{dis} , probe #1 average voltage obtained from the fourth cycle) are reported for the initial and final cycles.

Table 2. Dry Electrostatic Test Results Of Various Samples At The Beginning Of
Cycling And After 100 Charge-Discharge Cycles.

| Sample ID # | Prodtest Initial | | | | | | Prodtest Final (100 cycles) | | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------|------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|
| | V _{acc} | V _{dis} | V _{Con} | S _{780nm} | Dark Decay | V _{Res} | V _{acc} | V _{dis} | V _{Con} | Dark Decay | V _{Res} |
| Sample 1 | 560 | 80 | 460 | 300 | 40 | 40 | 560 | 80 | 480 | 40 | 40 |
| Sample 2 | 430 | 130 | 300 | --- | 60 | 40 | 430 | 190 | 240 | 50 | 40 |
| Sample 3 | 450 | 90 | 360 | --- | 60 | 30 | 300 | 90 | 210 | 80 | 20 |
| Sample 4 | 559 | 74 | 485 | 251.5 | 52 | 32 | 571 | 71 | 500 | 46 | 29 |
| Sample 5 | 432 | 47 | 385 | 251.5 | 48 | 14 | 247 | 44 | 203 | 47 | 15 |
| Sample 6 | 550 | 140 | 410 | 180 | 40 | 60 | 560 | 160 | 400 | 40 | 70 |
| Sample 7 | 450 | 170 | 280 | --- | 45 | 80 | 440 | 170 | 270 | 60 | 90 |
| Sample 8 | 470 | 240 | 230 | --- | 50 | 90 | 440 | 230 | 210 | 60 | 100 |
| Sample 9 | 570 | 175 | 395 | --- | 50 | 60 | 590 | 185 | 405 | 50 | 60 |
| Sample 10 | 465 | 180 | 285 | --- | 50 | 70 | 420 | 175 | 250 | 50 | 70 |
| Sample 11 | 500 | 160 | 340 | 125 | 60 | 40 | 470 | 150 | 320 | 60 | 50 |
| Sample 12 | 380 | 200 | 180 | --- | 60 | 80 | 320 | 200 | 120 | 80 | 70 |
| Sample 13 | 370 | 180 | 190 | --- | 80 | 40 | 280 | 160 | 120 | 60 | 40 |
| Sample 14 | 545 | 340 | 205 | --- | 65 | 110 | 560 | 355 | 205 | 70 | 130 |
| Sample 15 | 380 | 201 | 180 | --- | 75 | 50 | 330 | 190 | 140 | 80 | 50 |
| Comparative Sample A | 650 | 50 | 600 | 340 | 40 | 20 | 670 | 100 | 570 | 40 | 20 |
| Comparative Sample B | 500 | 50 | 450 | 310 | 40 | 15 | 320 | 60 | 260 | 40 | 15 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|----|-----|-----|----|----|-----|----|-----|----|----|
| Comparative Sample C | 320 | 40 | 280 | -- | 60 | 20 | 140 | 50 | 90 | 20 | 20 |
| Comparative Sample D | 614 | 35 | 580 | 376 | 45 | 10 | 581 | 34 | 550 | 46 | 10 |
| Comparative Sample E | 459 | 31 | 428 | 470 | 49 | 11 | 171 | 30 | 141 | 55 | 14 |

[0151] In the above table, the radiation sensitivity (Sensitivity at 780nm in m^2/J) of the xerographic process was determined from the information obtained during the VLOGE diagnostic run by calculating the reciprocal of the product of the laser power required to discharge the photoreceptor to $\frac{1}{2}$ of its initial potential, the exposure duration, and 1/spot size.

Example 5 - Evaluation Ionization Potentials for Charge Transport Compounds

[0152] This example presents the evaluation of the ionization potentials for three samples and a comparative sample.

[0153] Samples for ionization potential (Ip) measurements were prepared by dissolving the compound in tetrahydrofuran. The solution was hand-coated on an aluminized polyester substrate that was precision coated with a methylcellulose-based adhesion sub-layer to form a charge transport material (CTM) layer. The role of this sub-layer was to improve adhesion of the CTM layer, to retard crystallization of CTM, and to eliminate the electron photoemission from the Al layer through possible CTM layer defects. No photoemission was detected from the Al through the sub-layer at illumination with up to 6.4 eV quanta energy light. In addition, the adhesion sub-layer was conductive enough to avoid charge accumulation on it during measurement. The thickness of the sub-layer and CTM layer was each about 0.4 μm . No binder material was used with CTM in the preparation of the samples for Ip measurements. Five samples (Samples 16; 17, 18, 24 and 25) were prepared without binder materials using Compounds 2, 6, 10, 9 and 12, respectively.

[0154] The ionization potential was measured by an electron photoemission in air method similar to that described in "Ionization Potential of Organic Pigment Film by Atmospheric Photoelectron Emission Analysis," Electrophotography, 28, Nr. 4, p. 364 (1989) by E. Miyamoto, Y. Yamaguchi, and M. Yokoyama, which is hereby incorporated by reference. Each sample was illuminated with monochromatic light from the quartz monochromator with a deuterium lamp source. The power of the incident light beam was $2.5 \cdot 10^{-8}$ W. The negative voltage of -300 V was supplied to the sample substrate. The counter-electrode with the $4.5 \times 15 \text{ mm}^2$ slit for illumination was placed at 8 mm distance from the sample surface. The counter-electrode was connected to the input of the BK2-16 type electrometer, working in the open impute regime, for the photocurrent measurement. A 10^{-15} - 10^{-12} amp photocurrent was flowing in the circuit under illumination. The photocurrent, I, was strongly dependent on the incident light photon energy $h\nu$. The $I^{0.5}=f(h\nu)$ dependence was plotted. Usually the dependence of the square root of photocurrent on incident light quanta energy is well described by linear relationship near the threshold [see references "Ionization Potential of Organic Pigment Film by Atmospheric Photoelectron Emission Analysis," Electrophotography, 28, Nr. 4, p. 364 (1989) by E. Miyamoto, Y. Yamaguchi, and M. Yokoyama; and "Photoemission in Solids," Topics in Applied Physics, 26, 1-103 (1978) by M. Cordona and L. Ley, both of which are incorporated herein by reference]. The linear part of this dependence was extrapolated to the $h\nu$ axis and Ip value was determined as the photon energy at the interception point. The ionization potential measurement has an error of ± 0.03 eV. The ionization potential data are listed in Table 3.

Table 3.

| Ionization Potential and Mobility Values. | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|---------------------------|
| Sample | μ_0 ($\text{cm}^2/\text{V}\cdot\text{s}$) | μ ($\text{cm}^2/\text{V}\cdot\text{s}$) at $6.4 \cdot 10^5$ V/cm | α (cm/V) ^{0.5} | Ionization Potential (eV) |
| Sample 16 | - | - | - | 5.47 |
| Sample 17 | - | - | - | 5.43 |
| Sample 18 | - | - | - | 5.37 |

Table 3. (continued)

| Ionization Potential and Mobility Values. | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sample | μ_0 (cm ² /V·s) | μ (cm ² /V·s) at 6.4·10 ⁵ V/cm | α (cm/V) ^{0.5} | Ionization Potential (eV) |
| Sample 19 | - | 1.7·10 ⁻⁶ | 0.0039 | - |
| Sample 20 | - | 1.0·10 ⁻⁵ | 0.0050 | - |
| Sample 21 | - | 4.8·10 ⁻⁷ | 0.0055 | - |
| Sample 22 | - | 3.8·10 ⁻⁶ | 0.0059 | - |
| Sample 23 | - | 1.5·10 ⁻⁵ | 0.0057 | - |
| Sample 24 | - | - | - | 5.37 |
| Sample 25 | - | - | - | 5.35 |
| Sample 26 | 3.4·10 ⁻⁸ | 3.8·10 ⁻⁶ | 0.0057 | - |
| Sample 27 | 1.6·10 ⁻⁷ | 1.5·10 ⁻⁶ | 0.0059 | - |
| Sample 28 | 2.8·10 ⁻⁷ | 1.8·10 ⁻⁶ | 0.0023 | - |
| Sample 29 | 3.8·10 ⁻⁸ | 6·10 ⁻⁷ | 0.0034 | 5.29 |

Example 6

[0155] This example describes measurements of hole mobility for organophotoreceptor samples.

[0156] The hole drift mobility was measured by a time of flight technique as described in "The discharge kinetics of negatively charged Se electrophotographic layers," Lithuanian Journal of Physics, 6, p. 569-576 (1966) by E. Montrimas, V. Gaidelis, and A. Pažėra, which is hereby incorporated by reference. Positive corona charging created an electric field inside the CTM layer. The charge carriers were generated at the layer surface by illumination with pulses of nitrogen laser (pulse duration was 2 ns, wavelength 337 nm). The layer surface potential decreased as a result of pulse illumination was up to 1-5 % of initial potential before illumination. The capacitance probe that was connected to the wide frequency band electrometer measured the speed of the surface potential dU/dt. The transit time t_t was determined by the change (kink) in the curve of the dU/dt transient in linear or double logarithmic scale. The drift mobility was calculated by the formula $\mu = d^2/U_0 \cdot t_t$, where d is the layer thickness and U_0 is the surface potential at the moment of illumination. The hole mobility measurement was repeated with changes to the charging regime to charge the sample to different U values, which corresponded to different electric field strength, E, inside the layer. This dependence on electric field strength was approximated by the formula

$$\mu = \mu_0 e^{\alpha \sqrt{E}}$$

Here E is electric field strength, μ_0 is the zero field mobility and α is Pool-Frenkel parameter. Table 3 lists the mobility characterizing parameters μ_0 and α values and the mobility value at the 6.4x10⁵ V/cm field strength as determined from these measurements.

[0157] Eight samples as follows were prepared from five of the charge transport compounds described above in Example 1.

Sample 19

[0158] A mixture of 0.1 g of Compound 2 and 0.1 g of polyvinylbutyral (PVB1, Aldrich cat. # 41,843-9, commercially obtained from Aldrich, Milwaukee, WI) was dissolved in 2 ml of tetrahydrofuran (THF). The solution was coated on a polyester film with a conductive aluminum layer by a dip roller. After the coating was dried for 1 hour at 80 °C, a clear 10 μ m thick coating was formed. The hole mobility of Sample 19 was measured, the results are listed in Table 3 above.

Sample 20

[0159] Sample 20 was prepared according the procedure for Sample 19, except that polyvinylbutyral S-LEC B BX-1 (commercially obtained from Sekisui Chemical Co. Ltd., Japan) was used in place of PVB1. The mobility measure-

ment results are listed in Table 3.

Sample 21

5 [0160] Sample 21 was prepared according to the procedure for Sample 19 except that Compound 6 was used in place of Compound 2. The mobility measurement results are listed in Table 3.

Sample 22

10 [0161] Sample 22 was prepared according to the procedure for Sample 20 except that Compound 9 was used in place of Compound 2. The mobility measurement results are listed in Table 3.

Sample 23

15 [0162] Sample 23 was prepared according to the procedure for Sample 22 except that polycarbonate lupilon® Z-200 (commercially obtained from Mitsubishi Gas Chemical) was used in place of polyvinyl butyral. The mobility measurement results are listed in Table 3.

Sample 26

20 [0163] Sample 26 was prepared by dissolving 0.1 g of Compound (9) and 0.1 g of polyvinylbutyral (S-LEC B BX-1, obtained from Sekisui) in 2 ml of tetrahydrofuran. The solution was coated on a polyester film with a conductive aluminum layer by a dip roller. After the coating was dried for 1 hour at 80 °C, a clear 10 µm thick coating was formed. The mobility measurement results are listed in Table 3.

Sample 27

25 [0164] Sample 27 was prepared similarly to Sample 26 except polyvinylbutyral was replaced by polycarbonate PC-Z (lupilon 200, Mitsubishi Engineering Plastics Co). The mobility measurement results are listed in Table 3.

Sample 28

30 [0165] Sample 28 were prepared similarly to Sample 26 except Compound (9) was replaced by Compound (12). The mobility measurement results are listed in Table 3.

Sample 29

35 [0166] Sample 29 were prepared similarly to Sample 26 except Compound (9) was replaced by Compound (13). The mobility measurement results are listed in Table 3.

40 [0167] As understood by those skilled in the art, additional substitution, variation among substituents, and alternative methods of synthesis and use may be practiced within the scope and intent of the present disclosure of the invention. The embodiments above are intended to be illustrative and not limiting. Additional embodiments are within the claims. Although the present invention has been described with reference to particular embodiments, workers skilled in the art will recognize that changes may be made in form and detail without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

45 [0168] Although a few preferred embodiments have been shown and described, it will be appreciated by those skilled in the art that various changes and modifications might be made without departing from the scope of the invention, as defined in the appended claims.

50 [0169] Attention is directed to all papers and documents which are filed concurrently with or previous to this specification in connection with this application and which are open to public inspection with this specification, and the contents of all such papers and documents are incorporated herein by reference.

[0170] All of the features disclosed in this specification (including any accompanying claims, abstract and drawings), and/or all of the steps of any method or process so disclosed, may be combined in any combination, except combinations where at least some of such features and/or steps are mutually exclusive.

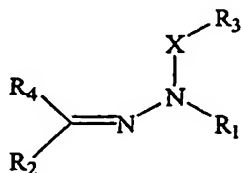
55 [0171] Each feature disclosed in this specification (including any accompanying claims, abstract and drawings) may be replaced by alternative features serving the same, equivalent or similar purpose, unless expressly stated otherwise. Thus, unless expressly stated otherwise, each feature disclosed is one example only of a generic series of equivalent or similar features.

[0172] The invention is not restricted to the details of the foregoing embodiment(s). The invention extends to any novel one, or any novel combination, of the features disclosed in this specification (including any accompanying claims, abstract and drawings), or to any novel one, or any novel combination, of the steps of any method or process so disclosed.

Claims

1. An organophotoreceptor comprising an electrically conductive substrate and a photoconductive element on the electrically conductive substrate, the photoconductive element comprising:

(a) a charge transport compound having the formula



R_1 is an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group;

R_2 comprises an (N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group;

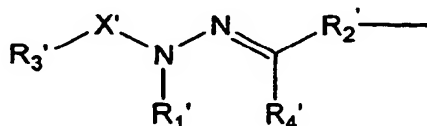
R_3 comprises an epoxy group;

R_4 is H, an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group; and

X is a first linking group; and

(b) a charge generating compound.

2. An organophotoreceptor according to claim 1 wherein the (N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group is selected from the group consisting of a p-(N,N-disubstituted)aryl amine group, a carbazole, and a julolidine group.
3. An organophotoreceptor according to either of claims 1 and 2 wherein X is a $-(CH_2)_m-$ group, where m is an integer between 1 and 30, inclusive, and one or more of the methylene groups is optionally replaced by O, S, N, C, B, P, C=O, O=S=O, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, urethane, urea, an ester group, an NR_5 group, a CR_6 , or a CR_7R_8 group where R_5 , R_6 , R_7 , and R_8 are, each independently, a bond, H, hydroxyl, thiol, carboxyl, an amino group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, or part of a ring group.
4. An organophotoreceptor according to any preceding claim wherein R_2 has the formula



where R_1' is an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group;

R_2' is selected from the group consisting of a carbazole group or a p-(N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group;

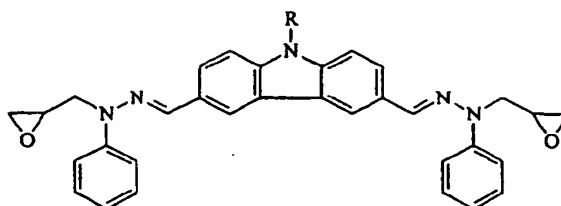
R_3' comprises an epoxy, a hydroxyl, a thiol, a carboxyl or an amine group;

R_4' is H, an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group; and

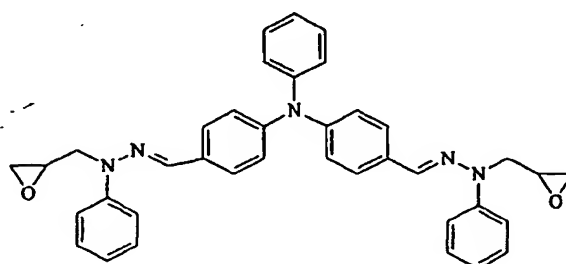
X' is a second linking group.

5. An organophotoreceptor according to claim 4 wherein X' is a $-(CH_2)_n-$ group, where n is an integer between 1 and 30, inclusive, and one or more of the methylene groups is optionally replaced by O, S, N, C, B, P, C=O, O=S=O, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, urethane, urea, an ester group, an NR_9 group, a CR_{10} , or a $CR_{11}R_{12}$ group where R_9 , R_{10} , R_{11} , and R_{12} are, each independently, a bond, H, hydroxyl, thiol, carboxyl, an amino group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, or part of a ring group.

6. An organophotoreceptor according to any preceding claim wherein the charge transport compound is selected from the group consisting of:



where R is hydrogen, an alkyl group, an aromatic group, or a heterocyclic group, and



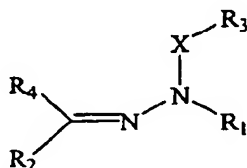
7. An organophotoreceptor according to any preceding claim further comprising an electron transport compound.
8. An organophotoreceptor according to any preceding claim wherein the organophotoreceptor is in the form of a drum or a belt.
9. An organophotoreceptor according to any preceding claim comprising:

- (a) a charge transport layer comprising the charge transport compound and a polymeric binder; and
(b) a charge generating layer comprising the charge generating compound and a polymeric binder.

10. An electrophotographic imaging apparatus comprising:

- (a) a light imaging component; and
(b) an organophotoreceptor oriented to receive light from the light imaging component, the organophotoreceptor comprising an electrically conductive substrate and a photoconductive element on the electrically conductive substrate, the photoconductive element comprising:

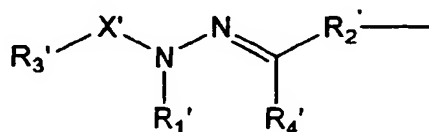
- (i) a charge transport compound having the formula



R_1 is an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group;
 R_2 comprises an (N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group;

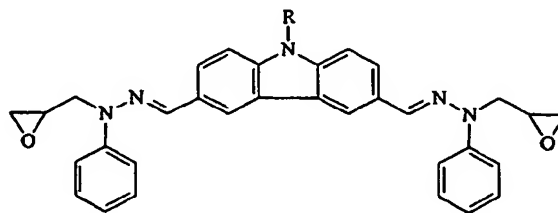
R_3 comprises an epoxy group;
 R_4 is H, an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group; and
 X is a first linking group; and
 (ii) a charge generating compound.

11. An electrophotographic imaging apparatus according to claim 10 wherein the (N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group is selected from the group consisting of a p-(N,N-disubstituted)aryl amine group, a carbazole, and a julolidine group.
12. An electrophotographic imaging apparatus according to either of claims 10 and 11 wherein X is a $-(CH_2)_m-$ group, where m is an integer between 1 and 30, inclusive, and one or more of the methylene groups is optionally replaced by O, S, N, C, B, P, C=O, O=S=O, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, urethane, urea, an ester group, an NR_5 group, a CR_6 , or a CR_7R_8 group where R_5 , R_6 , R_7 , and R_8 are, each independently, a bond, H, hydroxyl, thiol, carboxyl, an amino group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, or part of a ring group.
13. An electrophotographic imaging apparatus according to any of claims 10 to 12 further comprising a toner dispenser.
14. An electrophotographic imaging apparatus according to any of claims 10 to 13 wherein the organophotoreceptor further comprises an electron transport compound.
15. An electrophotographic imaging apparatus according to any of claims 10 to 14 wherein R_2 has the formula

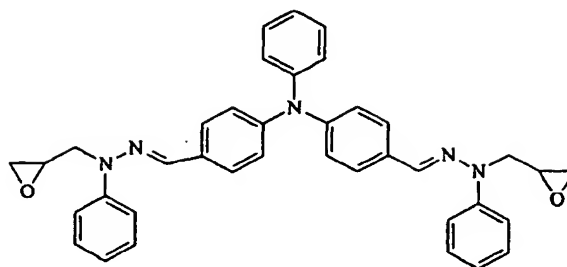


where R_1' is an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group;
 R_2' is selected from the group consisting of a carbazole group or a p-(N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group;
 R_3' comprises an epoxy group, a hydroxyl group, a thiol group, a carboxyl group, or an amine group;
 R_4' is H, an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group; and
 X' is a second linking group.

16. An electrophotographic imaging apparatus according to claim 15 wherein X' is a $-(CH_2)_n-$ group, where n is an integer between 1 and 30, inclusive, and one or more of the methylene groups is optionally replaced by O, S, N, C, B, P, C=O, O=S=O, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, urethane, urea, an ester group, an NR_9 group, a CR_{10} , or a $CR_{11}R_{12}$ group where R_9 , R_{10} , R_{11} , and R_{12} are, each independently, a bond, H, hydroxyl, thiol, carboxyl, an amino group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, or part of a ring group.
17. An electrophotographic imaging apparatus according to any of claims 10 to 16 wherein the charge transport compound is selected from the group consisting of:



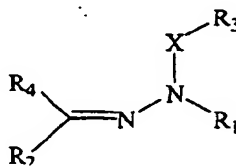
where R is hydrogen, an alkyl group, an aromatic group, or a heterocyclic group, and



18. An electrophotographic imaging process comprising:

(a) applying an electrical charge to a surface of an organophotoreceptor comprising an electrically conductive substrate and a photoconductive element on the electrically conductive substrate, the photoconductive element comprising:

(i) a charge transport compound having the formula



R_1 is an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group;

R_2 comprises an (N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group;

R_3 comprises an epoxy group;

R_4 is H, an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group; and

X is a first linking group; and

(ii) a charge generating compound;

(b) imagewise exposing the surface of the organophotoreceptor to radiation to dissipate charge in selected areas and thereby form a pattern of charged and uncharged areas on the surface;

(c) contacting the surface with a toner to create a toned image; and

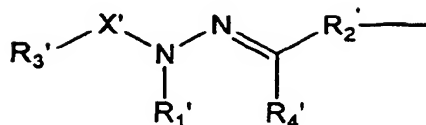
(d) transferring the toned image to a substrate.

19. An electrophotographic imaging process according to claim 18 wherein the (N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group is selected from the group consisting of a p-(N,N-disubstituted)aryl amine group, a carbazole, and a julolidine group.

20. An electrophotographic imaging process according to either of claims 18 and 19 wherein X is a $-(CH_2)_m-$ group, where m is an integer between 1 and 30, inclusive, and one or more of the methylene groups is optionally replaced by O, S, N, C, B, P, C=O, O=S=O, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, urethane, urea, an ester group, an NR_5 group, a CR_6 , or a CR_7R_8 group where R_5 , R_6 , R_7 , and R_8 are, each independently, a bond, H, hydroxyl, thiol, carboxyl, an amino group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, or part of a ring group.

21. An electrophotographic imaging process according to any of claims 18 to 20 wherein the organophotoreceptor further comprises an electron transport compound.

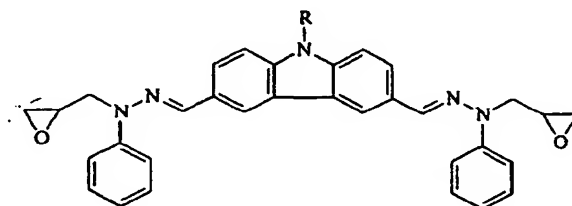
22. An electrophotographic imaging process according to any of claims 18 to 21 wherein R_2 has the formula



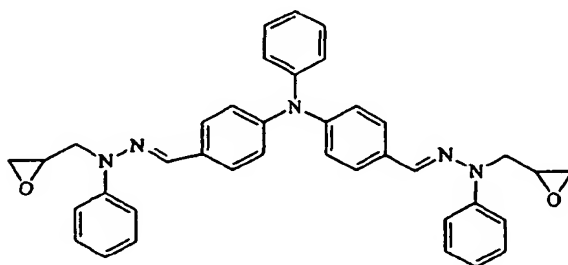
where R_1' is an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group;
 R_2' is selected from the group consisting of a carbazole group or a p-(N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group;
 R_3' comprises an epoxy group, a hydroxyl group, a thiol group, a carboxyl group, or an amine group;
 R_4' is H, an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group; and
 X' is a second linking group.

23. An organophotoreceptor according to claim 22 wherein X' is a $-(CH_2)_n$ -group, where n is an integer between 1 and 30, inclusive, and one or more of the methylene groups is optionally replaced by O, S, N, C, B, P, C=O, O=S=O, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, urethane, urea, an ester group, an NR_9 group, a CR_{10} , or a $CR_{11}R_{12}$ group where R_9 , R_{10} , R_{11} , and R_{12} are, each independently, a bond, H, hydroxyl, thiol, carboxyl, an amino group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, or part of a ring group.

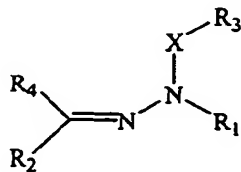
24. An electrophotographic imaging process according to any of claims 18 to 23 wherein the charge transport compound is selected from the group consisting of:



where R is hydrogen, an alkyl group, an aromatic group, or a heterocyclic group, and



25. A charge transport compound having the formula



where R_1 is an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group;

R_2 comprises an (N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group;

R_3 comprises an epoxy group;

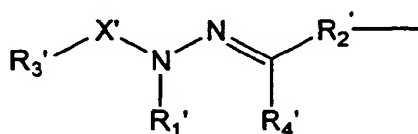
R_4 is H, an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group; and

X is a first linking group.

26. A charge transport compound according to claim 25 wherein the (N,N-disubstituted) arylamine group is selected from the group consisting of a p-(N,N-disubstituted)aryl amine group, a carbazole, and a julolidine group.

27. A charge transport compound according to either of claims 25 and 26 wherein X is a $-(CH_2)_m-$ group, where m is an integer between 1 and 30, inclusive, and one or more of the methylene groups is optionally replaced by O, S, N, C, B, P, C=O, O=S=O, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, urethane, urea, an ester group, an NR_5 group, a CR_6 , or a CR_7R_8 group where R_5 , R_6 , R_7 , and R_8 are, each independently, a bond, H, hydroxyl, thiol, carboxyl, an amino group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, or part of a ring group.

28. A charge transport compound according to any of claims 25 to 27 wherein R_2 has the formula



where R_1' is an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group;

R_2' is selected from the group consisting of a carbazole group or a p-(N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group;

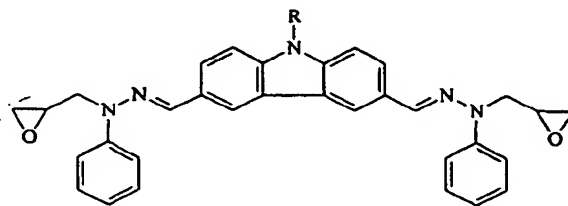
R_3' comprises an epoxy group, a hydroxyl group, a thiol group, a carboxyl group, or an amine group;

R_4' is H, an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group; and

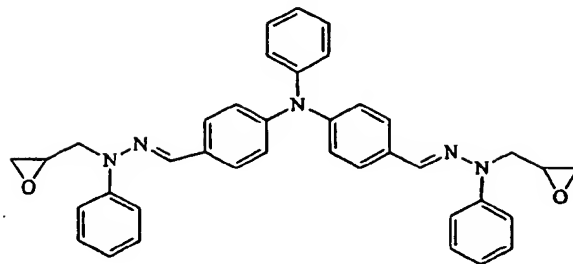
X' is a second linking group.

29. A charge transport compound according to claim 28 wherein X' is a $-(CH_2)_n-$ group, where n is an integer between 1 and 30, inclusive, and one or more of the methylene groups is optionally replaced by O, S, N, C, B, P, C=O, O=S=O, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, urethane, urea, an ester group, an NR_9 group, a CR_{10} , or a $CR_{11}R_{12}$ group where R_9 , R_{10} , R_{11} , and R_{12} are, each independently, a bond, H, hydroxyl, thiol, carboxyl, an amino group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, or part of a ring group.

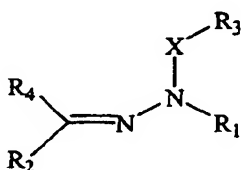
30. A charge transport compound according to any of claims 25 to 29 wherein the charge transport compound is selected from the group consisting of:



where R is hydrogen, an alkyl group, an aromatic group, or a heterocyclic group, and



31. A charge transport composition prepared by the reaction of at least a reactive functionality of a functional binder with at least an epoxy ring in a compound having the formula



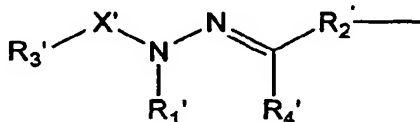
where R_1 is an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group;
 R_2 comprises an (N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group;
 R_3 comprises an epoxy group;
 R_4 is H, an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group; and
 X is a first linking group.

32. A charge transport composition according to claim 31 wherein the reactive functionality is selected from the group consisting of hydroxyl, thiol, carboxyl, and an amino group.

33. A charge transport composition according to either of claims 31 and 32 wherein the (N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group is selected from the group consisting of a p-(N,N-disubstituted)aryl amine group, a carbazole, and a julolidine group.

34. A charge transport composition according to any of claims 31 to 33 wherein X is a $-(CH_2)_m-$ group, where m is an integer between 1 and 30, inclusive, and one or more of the methylene groups is optionally replaced by O, S, N, C, B, P, C=O, O=S=O, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, urethane, urea, an ester group, an NR_5 group, a CR_6 , or a CR_7R_8 group where R_5 , R_6 , R_7 , and R_8 are, each independently, a bond, H, hydroxyl, thiol, carboxyl, an amino group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, or part of a ring group.

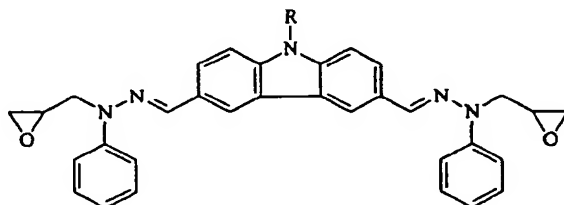
35. A charge transport composition of according to any of claims 31 to 34 wherein R_2 has the formula



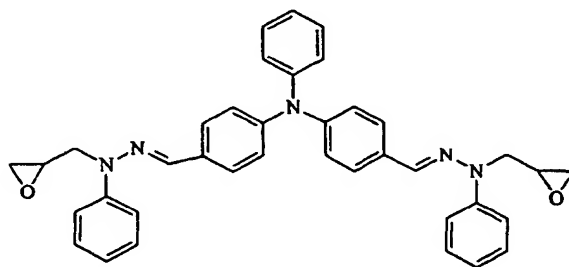
where R_1' is an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group;
 R_2' is selected from the group consisting of a carbazole group or a p-(N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group;
 R_3' comprises an epoxy group, a hydroxyl group, a thiol group, a carboxyl group, or an amine group;
 R_4' is H, an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group; and
 X' is a second linking group.

36. A charge transport composition according to claim 35 wherein X' is a $-(CH_2)_n-$ group, where n is an integer between 1 and 30, inclusive, and one or more of the methylene groups is optionally replaced by O, S, N, C, B, P, C=O, O=S=O, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, urethane, urea, an ester group, an NR_9 group, a CR_{10} , or a $CR_{11}R_{12}$ group where R_9 , R_{10} , R_{11} , and R_{12} are, each independently, a bond, H, hydroxyl, thiol, carboxyl, an amino group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, or part of a ring group.

37. A charge transport composition according to any of claims 31 to 36 wherein the charge transport compound is selected from the group consisting of:

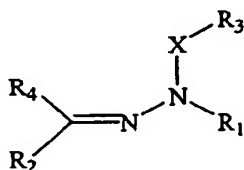


where R is hydrogen, an alkyl group, an aromatic group, or a heterocyclic group, and



38. An organophotoreceptor comprising an electrically conductive substrate and a photoconductive element on the electrically conductive substrate, the photoconductive element comprising:

(a) a polymeric charge transport compound prepared by the reaction of at least a reactive functionality of a functional binder with at least an epoxy ring in a compound having the formula



R_1 is an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group;

R_2 comprises an (N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group;

R_3 comprises an epoxy group;

R_4 is H, an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group; and

X is a first linking group; and

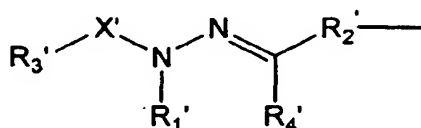
(b) a charge generating compound.

39. An organophotoreceptor according to claim 38 wherein the photoconductive element further comprises an electron transport compound.

40. An organophotoreceptor according to either of claims 38 and 39 wherein the reactive functionality of the binder is

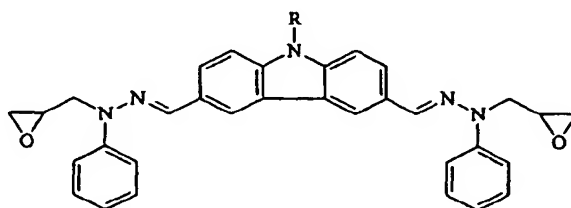
selected from the group consisting of hydroxyl, carboxyl group, thiol, and an amino group.

41. An organophotoreceptor according to any of claims 38 to 40 wherein the (N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group is selected from the group consisting of a p-(N,N-disubstituted)aryl amine group, a carbazole, and a julolidine group.
42. An organophotoreceptor according to any of claims 38 to 41 wherein X is a $-(CH_2)_m-$ group, where m is an integer between 1 and 30, inclusive, and one or more of the methylene groups is optionally replaced by O, S, N, C, B, P, C=O, O=S=O, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, urethane, urea, an ester group, an NR_5 group, a CR_6 , or a CR_7R_8 group where R_5 , R_6 , R_7 , and R_8 are, each independently, a bond, H, hydroxyl, thiol, carboxyl, an amino group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, or part of a ring group.
43. An organophotoreceptor according to any of claims 38 to 42 wherein R_2 has the formula



where R_1' is an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group;
 R_2' is selected from the group consisting of a carbazole group or a p-(N,N-disubstituted)arylamine group;
 R_3' comprises an epoxy group, a hydroxyl group, a thiol group, a carboxyl group, or an amine group;
 R_4' is H, an aromatic group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, or a heterocyclic group; and
 X' is a second linking group.

44. An organophotoreceptor according to claim 43 wherein X' is a $-(CH_2)_n-$ group, where n is an integer between 1 and 30, inclusive, and one or more of the methylene groups is optionally replaced by O, S, N, C, B, P, C=O, O=S=O, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, urethane, urea, an ester group, an NR_9 group, a CR_{10} , or a $CR_{11}R_{12}$ group where R_9 , R_{10} , R_{11} , and R_{12} are, each independently, a bond, H, hydroxyl, thiol, carboxyl, an amino group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, a heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, or part of a ring group.
45. An organophotoreceptor according to any of claims 38 to 44 wherein the charge transport compound is selected from the group consisting of:



where R is hydrogen, an alkyl group, an aromatic group, or a heterocyclic group, and

